



**80** pg. **GIANT** **25c**

NO. 208 FEB  
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AUTHORITY

# BATMAN

**WHO  
IS THE MOST  
IMPORTANT  
WOMAN IN  
BATMAN'S  
LIFE?**



IS  
SHE...  
BATGIRL?  
BATWOMAN?  
CATWOMAN?  
POISON IVY?  
VICKI VALE?

**OR... SOMEONE ELSE??**

OH, HELLO! I'M MRS. CHILTON! WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK IN MY SCRAP-BOOK?

NO, IT'S NOT GOING TO BORE YOU... I CAN PROMISE YOU THAT! HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU...

YES, THIS BOOK CONCERNS

# BATMAN

...SPECIFICALLY, *THE* WOMEN IN *BATMAN'S* LIFE!

YOU SEE, I'M THE MOST IMPORTANT WOMAN IN HIS LIFE!



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"NEXT DAY, DURING THE FILMING, THE LIGHTS WENT OUT DURING THE SCENE IN WHICH THE VILLAIN WAS SUPPOSED TO 'KILL' LORNA. WHEN THEY CAME ON AGAIN..."

I-I DIDN'T DO IT!

NO... WHOEVER SWITCHED OFF THE LIGHTS KILLED HER!



"AT THE END OF A WEEK, THE KILLER HAD NOT BEEN CAUGHT... AND JULIE WAS WORRIED..."

...THE STUDIO IS GOING AHEAD WITH THE PICTURE... AND IN THE NEXT SCENE, I'M SUPPOSED TO BE "KILLED"! I'M AFRAID! SUPPOSE...

DON'T WORRY, MY DEAR! THE MURDERER WON'T TRY FOR YOU!



"BUT BRUCE WASN'T TAKING ANY CHANCES. HE BEGAN INVESTIGATING AS BATMAN... AND FOUND THE NEXT VICTIM... FRED WALKER!"



WALKER! CAN YOU HEAR ME? WHO DID THIS TO YOU?

CLAYFACE... CLAYFACE... HE... A-A-A-A-AH!

"LATER, AS JULIE PLAYED HER 'DEATH' SCENE..."

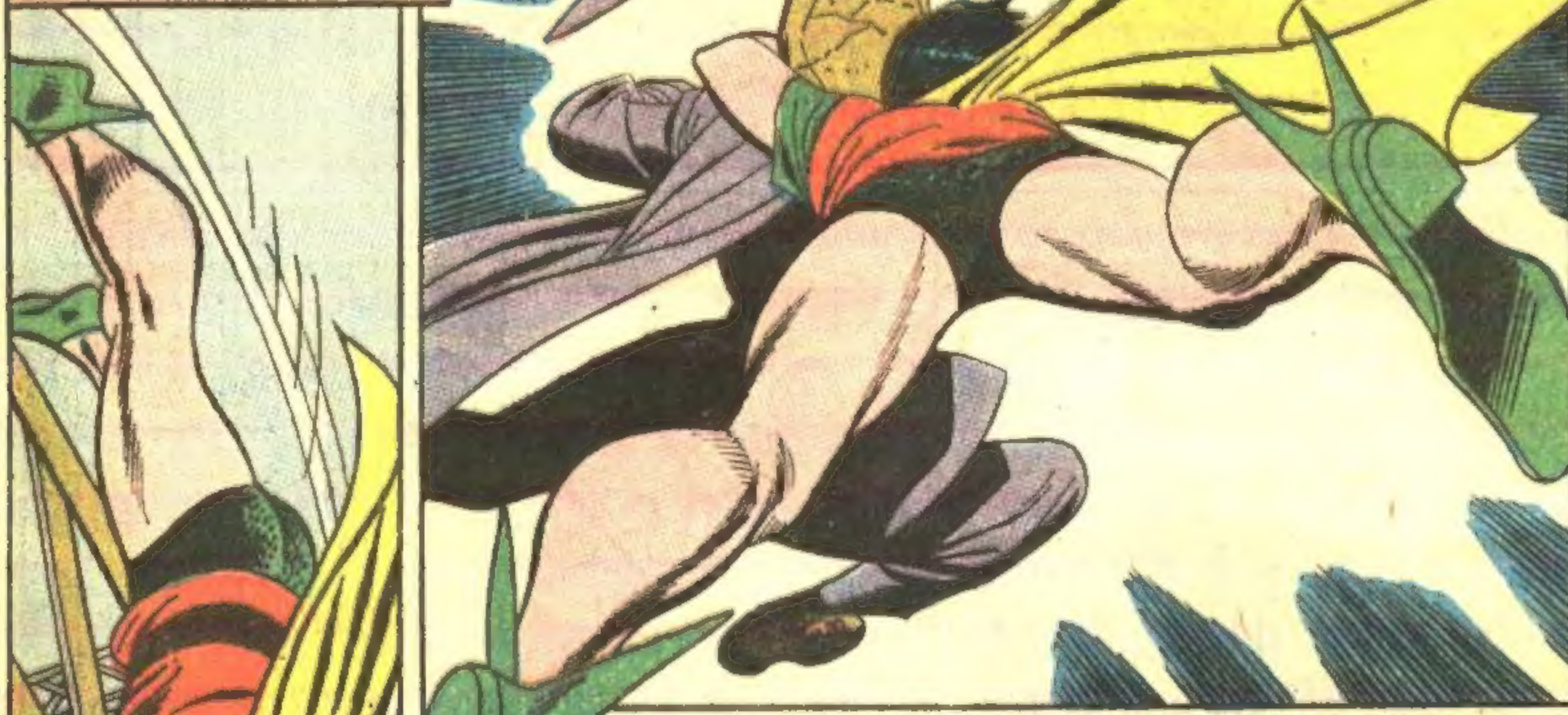


DIE, JULIE!

SUDDENLY, A ROPE ENCIRCLED THE MURDERER'S WRIST...



CLAYFACE FLED... BUT WAS STOPPED BY BATMAN'S NEW PARTNER, ROBIN...



WHEN BATMAN REMOVED THE KILLER'S MAKEUP...



I'LL BET YOU'LL BE SURPRISED!

IT'S BASIL KARLO!

RIGHT! HE HATED YOU FOR USING TODD IN ONE OF HIS FORMER PARTS! HE MADE UP AS ANOTHER OLD ROLE, CLAYFACE, AND FOLLOWED THE PLOT IN HIS KILLINGS!



THEN ANOTHER WOMAN CAME INTO BATMAN'S LIFE... THE CATWOMAN! \*



AS TOLD IN BATMAN NO. 1.

"MRS. JOHN TRAVERS WAS WEARING HER FABULOUS EMERALD NECKLACE DURING A YACHTING CRUISE. SINCE BATMAN WAS TIED UP ON ANOTHER CASE, BRUCE SENT DICK GRAYSON ALONG AS A STEWARD TO WATCH FOR THIEVES..."



AH, DENNY, MY FAVORITE NEPHEW! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

HELLO, AUNT MARTHA! I WANT YOU TO MEET MISS PEGGS. SHE'S A GUEST OF MINE!

"LATER, DICK GOT HOLD OF A NOTE DENNY HAD TOSSED OVERBOARD, BUT WHICH THE WIND HAD BLOWN BACK..."



THE CAT! MRS. TRAVERS IS KEEPING HER NECKLACE IN HER ROOM TILL THE BIG PARTY LATER! I'D BETTER GET THERE RIGHT AWAY!

KEEP YOUR AUNT AWAY FROM ROOM, WILL TRY THEN! THE CAT



"BUT..."

I'VE BEEN ROBBED! MY NECKLACE HAS BEEN STOLEN!

TOO LATE... THE CAT GOT HERE FIRST!

"BATMAN SHOWED UP IN TIME TO TRAP THE REAL THIEF.. MISS PEGGS/WHEN HE REMOVED HER DISGUISE..."



I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE CAT BEFORE...AND NOW WE SEE WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE!

"THE CAT...OR THE CATWOMAN, AS SHE BECAME KNOWN... LATER DONNED A COSTUME FOR HER ROBBERIES...ONE THAT HAS CHANGED OVER THE YEARS..."



# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**  
-THE BOY WONDER-

THE  
**CATWOMAN**  
**IS**  
**BACK!!**

YES, ONCE AGAIN THE PRINCESS OF PLUNDER RETURNS TO BARE HER CLAWS AT BATMAN AND ROBIN AS SHE PLANS CRIMES AS SMOOTH AS A CAT'S FUR! BUT THEN -- SOMETHING HAPPENS! AND EXACTLY WHAT THAT IS WILL ASTOUND YOU AS MUCH AS IT DID THE DYNAMIC DUO! FOR, BEHIND THE DARK, GLITTERING EYES OF THE CATWOMAN ARE MYSTERY AND THE ASTONISHING ANSWER TO ...

"THE  
Secret Life of  
THE  
CATWOMAN"

by  
**BOB KANE**



SOMEWHERE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY, AS HARD-FACED MEN LOOK EXPECTANTLY AT A MASKED FIGURE...

HA-HA.. ANOTHER HEADLINE ABOUT US! SO FAR WE'RE DOING FINE, BOYS ... BUT FOR THE OTHER ROBBERIES I'VE PLANNED, I'M GOING TO NEED A PARTNER!

GOT ANYBODY IN MIND, MISTER X?

GOTHAM NEWS  
**MR. X MOB ROBS CITY BANK!**  
NEW GANG CZAR'S THIRD HAUL THIS WEEK

YES-- THE CLEVEREST, MOST DANGEROUS-- AND MOST BEAUTIFUL LADY OF CRIME IN THE COUNTRY-- **THE CATWOMAN!**

**CATWOMAN?** BUT SHE'S IN JAIL!

THEN WE'LL GET HER OUT! YES, I KNOW JUST HOW TO DO IT... AND ONCE **CATWOMAN** IS FREE, NOTHING WILL STOP US! WE'LL EMBARK ON A CRIME WAVE THE LIKES OF WHICH GOTHAM CITY HAS NEVER BEFORE SEEN.

NEXT DAY, IN THE HOME OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...

GOOD GRIEF, **BATMAN!** LOOK AT THAT HEADLINE ON THE TELEVISION SCREEN! **CATWOMAN'S** OUT-TO COMMIT MORE CRIMES!

**CATWOMAN** ESCAPES THROUGH DYNAMITED PRISON WALL!

RIGHT, **BATMAN!**

NOT IF WE CAN HELP IT... RIGHT, **ROBIN?**

WHILE ELSEWHERE, IN A SPEEDING CAR--THAT **PRINCESS OF PLUNDER--THE CATWOMAN!**

SO YOUR **BOSS** PLANNED MY JAIL-BREAK, EH? BUT WHY?

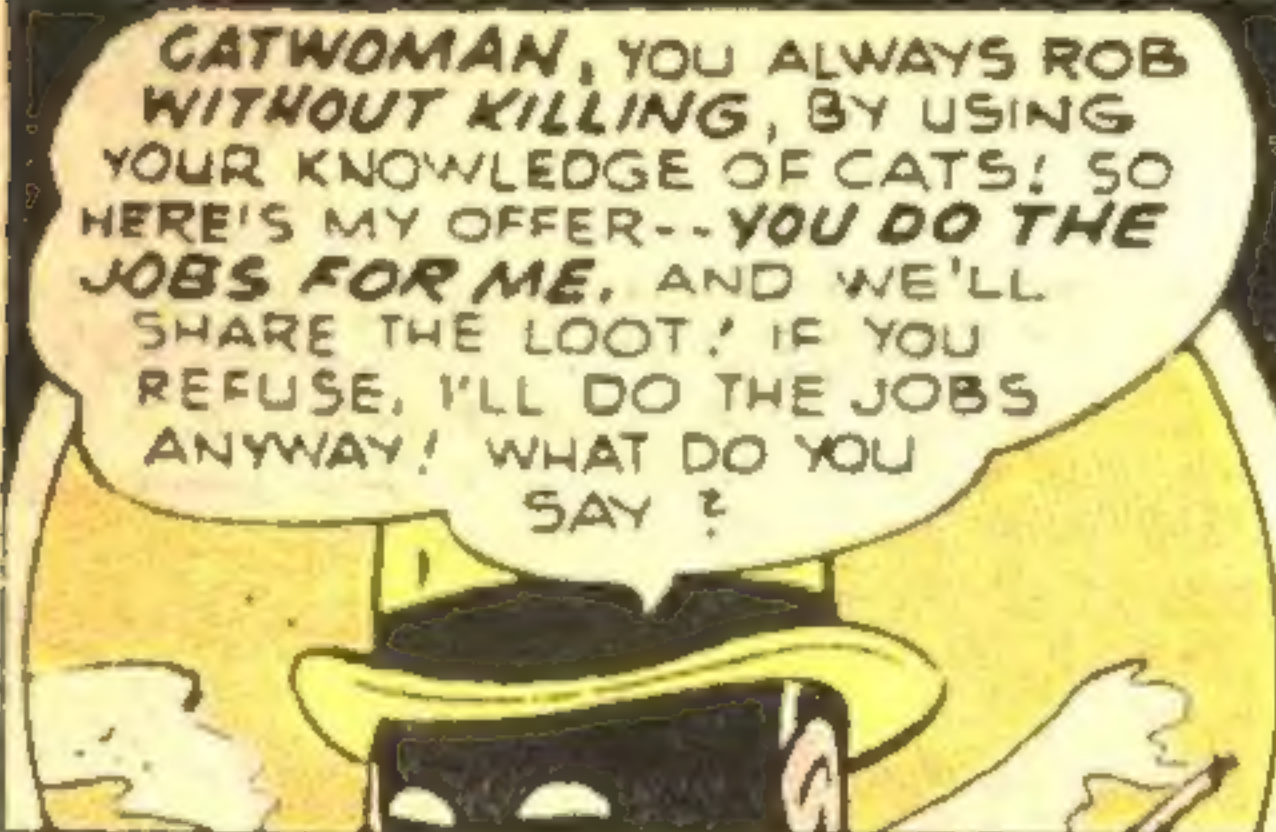
HE NEEDS YOU FOR A DEAL, **CATWOMAN!** NOW I GOTTA **BLINDFOLD** YOU! **MISTER X'S** PLACE HAS TO BE KEPT SECRET--EVEN FROM YOU!

SOON, **CRIME QUEEN** MEETS **CRIME KING!**

**MISTER X,** I PRESUME!

CORRECT, **CATWOMAN...** LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS! I'VE GOT MANY JOBS LINED UP FOR MY MOB, BUT IN ORDER TO WORK THEM, THE BOYS MIGHT HAVE TO KILL GUARDS OR WATCHMEN! THAT, I DON'T WANT... I DON'T EVER WANT A MURDER RAP HANGING OVER MY HEAD!





CATWOMAN, YOU ALWAYS ROB WITHOUT KILLING, BY USING YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF CATS! SO HERE'S MY OFFER-- YOU DO THE JOBS FOR ME, AND WE'LL SHARE THE LOOT! IF YOU REFUSE, I'LL DO THE JOBS ANYWAY! WHAT DO YOU SAY?



OKAY--WE'RE PARTNERS!

GOOD! DIPPER, HERE, WILL TELL YOU OF THE FIRST PLACE TO BE ROBBED! BY THE TIME WE'RE THROUGH, WE'LL HAVE COMMISSIONER GORDON GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES!



LATER, AS THE CATWOMAN AND DIPPER DISCUSS ROBBERY PLANS IN A CRIMINAL HANGOUT...

HYA, DIPPER, OLI PAL! DID-DIDJA TALK TO MISTER X ABOUT ME JOINING HIS MOB, HUH?

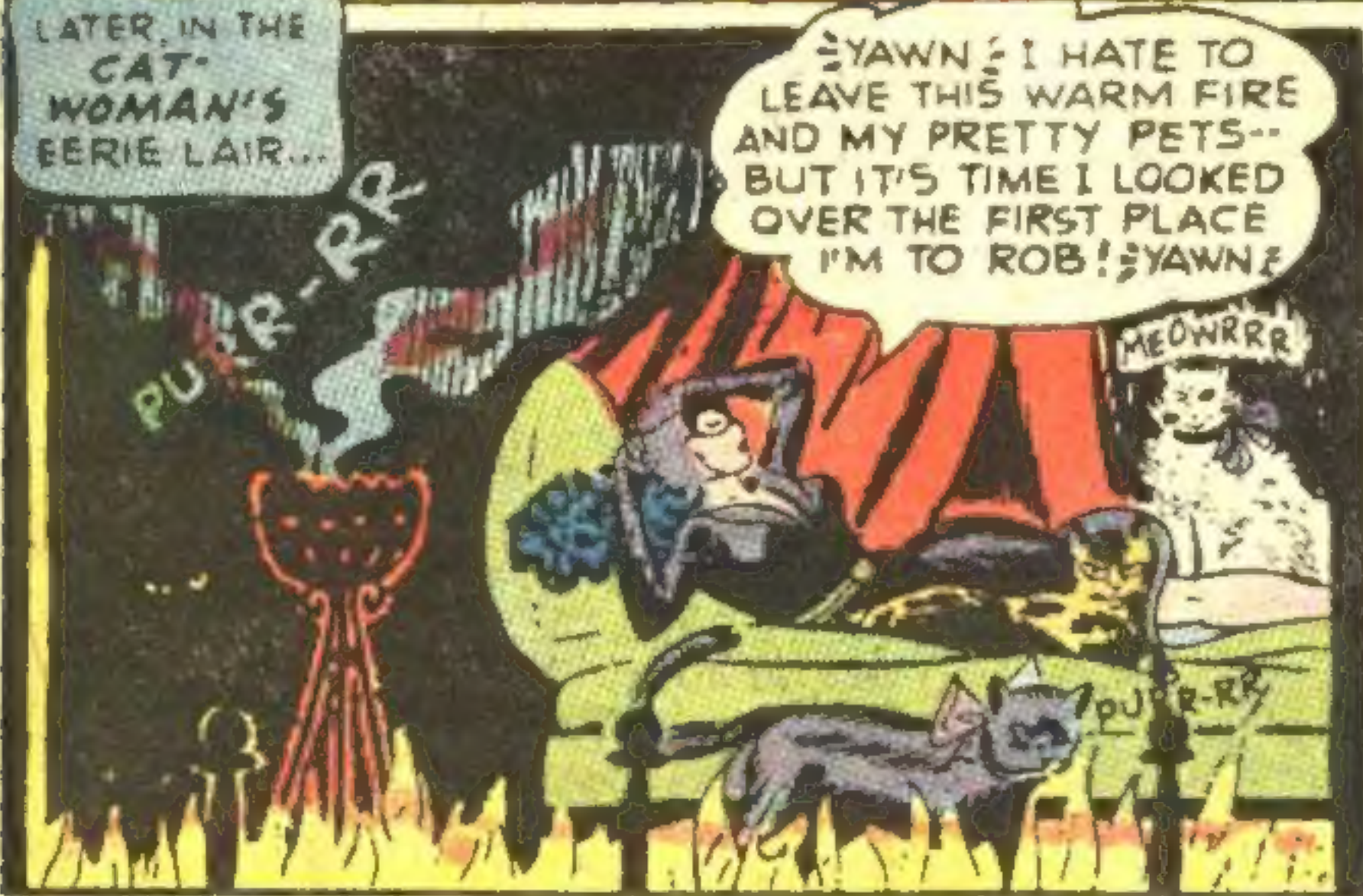
BEAT IT, MOUSEY! MISTER X DON'T WANT YOU AROUND! HE LIKES GUYS WITH NERVE! IF THE COPS EVER LOOKED AT YOU, YOU'D FAINT!



AW, PLEASE, DIPPER. I'LL DO ANYTHING TO JOIN THE MOB! UGH! DON'T SHOVE!

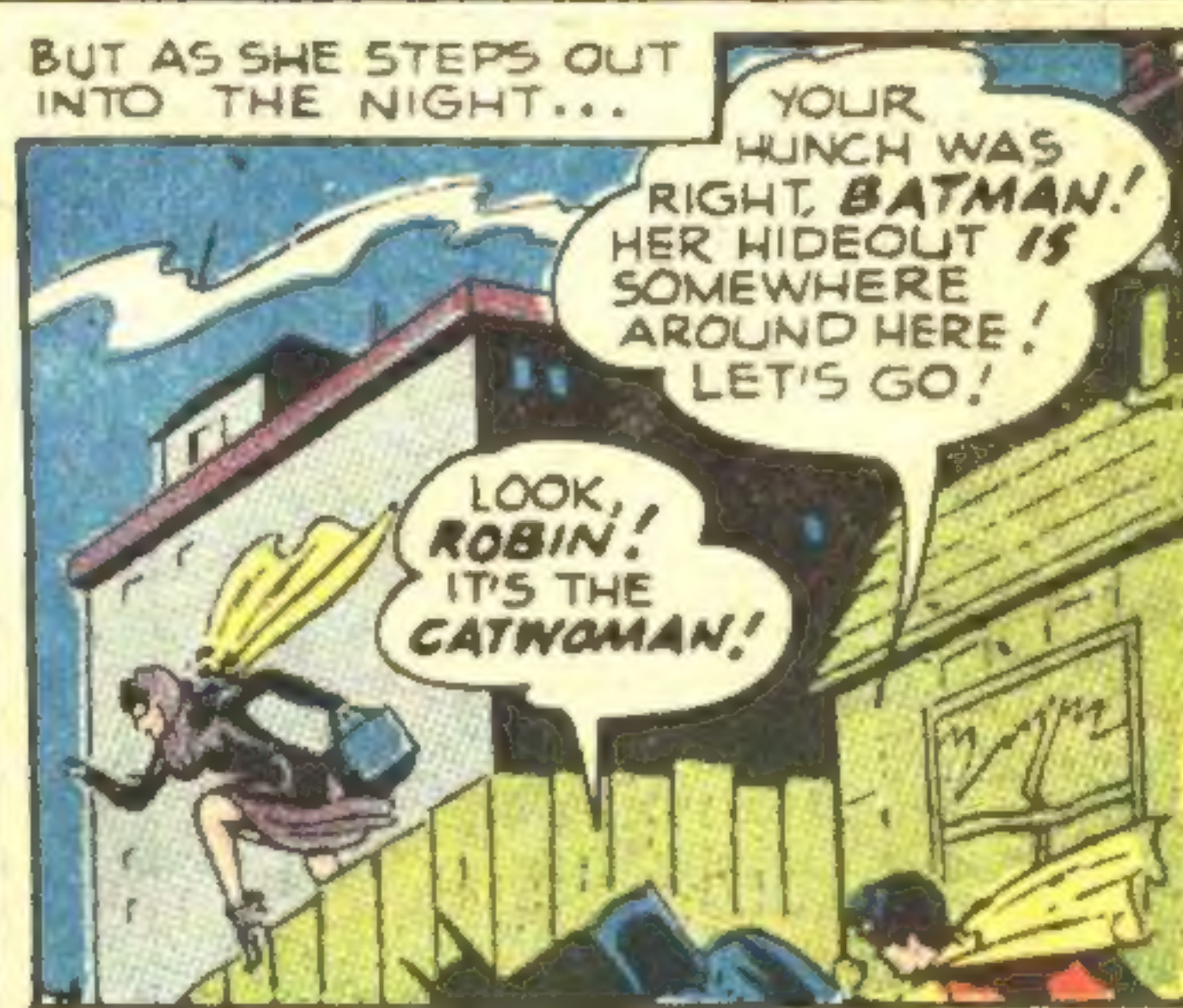
HE'S ALWAYS AROUND. CATWOMAN! A REGULAR PEST! HE'S JUST LIKE HIS NAME-- MOUSEY!

CAREFUL MOUSEY! OR I'LL SEND THIS CAT AFTER YOU. HA-HA!



LATER, IN THE CATWOMAN'S EERIE LAIR...

YAWN! I HATE TO LEAVE THIS WARM FIRE AND MY PRETTY PETS-- BUT IT'S TIME I LOOKED OVER THE FIRST PLACE I'M TO ROB! YAWN!



BUT AS SHE STEPS OUT INTO THE NIGHT...

YOUR HUNCH WAS RIGHT, BATMAN! HER HIDEOUT IS SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE! LET'S GO!

LOOK, ROBIN! IT'S THE CATWOMAN!

Will **PROTEUS** MAKE  
DC  
MEAN  
"DIE, CREEPER"?



LOOK AT ME CREEPER! LOOK AT THE TRUE FACE OF PROTEUS AND THEN DIE!!

STEALTHILY, THE MASKED CRIME-BUSTERS CLOSE IN-- BUT SUDDENLY...

AH... I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU! MEET MY **RED PERSIAN** ... A CAT NOTED FOR A FIERY TEMPER THAT MATCHES ITS COLOR! BEING COOPED UP HAS MADE IT VERY IRRITATED! HA-HA!

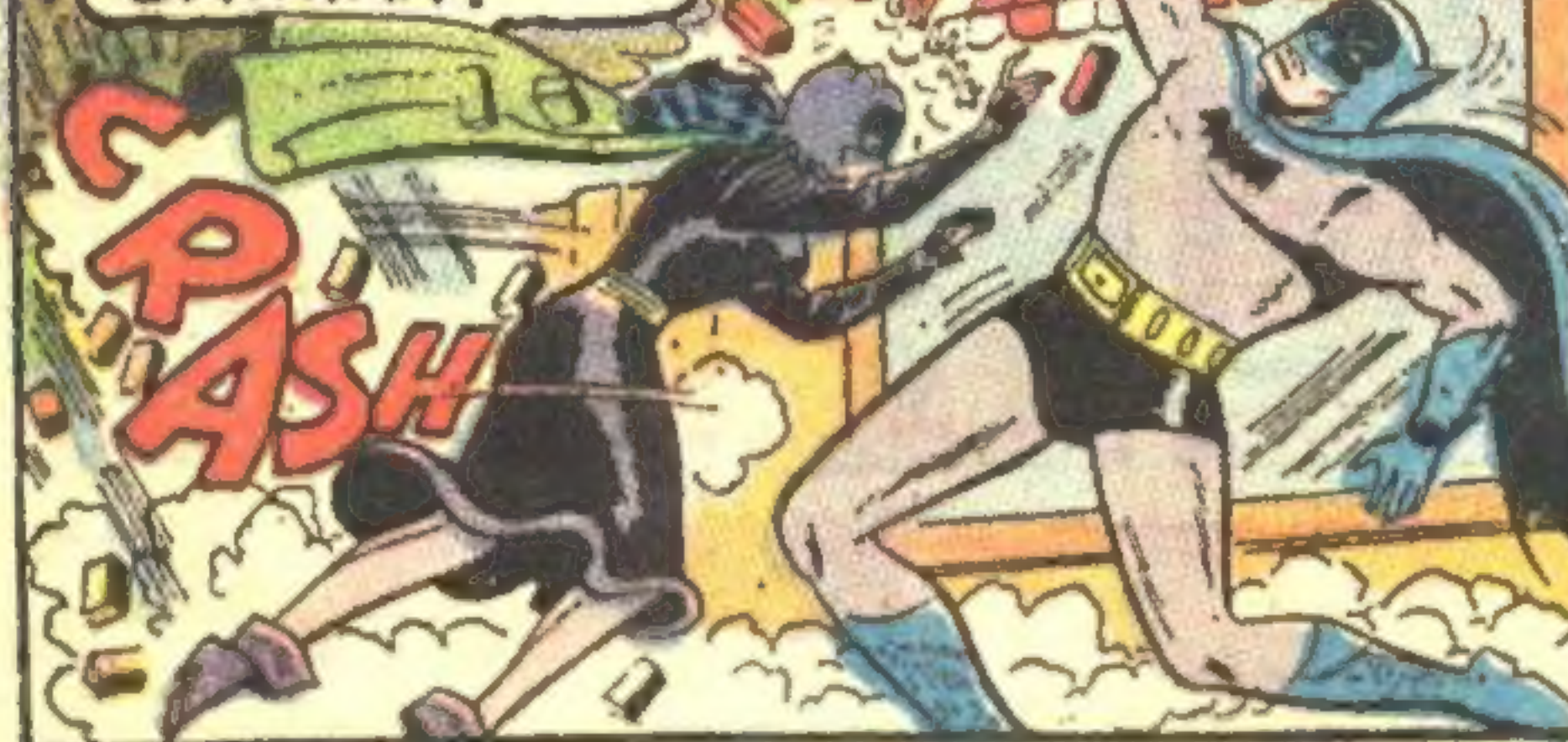
ROBIN! WATCH OUT!



BUT WAIT! FOR A SPLIT INSTANT, THE **CATWOMAN** HESITATES, THEN, LIKE A STREAK OF SABLE LIGHTNING, SHE LEAPS TO **SAVE BATMAN!**

GET BACK! BA... UHH!

WHAT..?



WHILE **ROBIN** PARRIES THE CLAWING CAT, **BATMAN** PURSUES THE FELINE FELON PAST A CONDEMNED BUILDING, WHERE ...

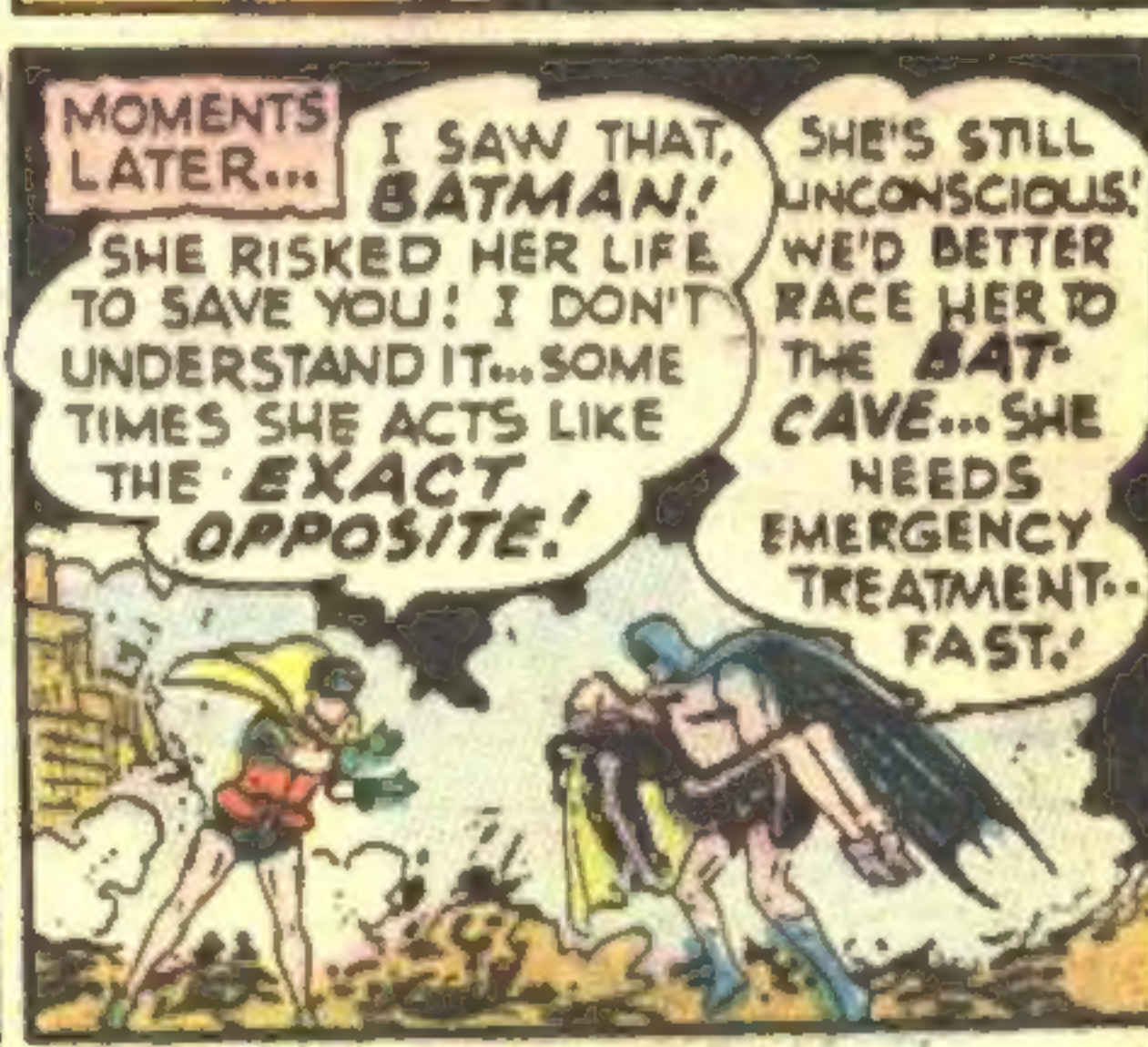
OHH! A SECTION OF THE WALL IS TOPPLING! **BATMAN WILL BE KILLED!** I'LL BE ABLE TO ESCAPE NOW! I'LL BE FREE!



MOMENTS LATER...

I SAW THAT, **BATMAN!** SHE RISKED HER LIFE TO SAVE YOU! I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT... SOME TIMES SHE ACTS LIKE THE **EXACT OPPOSITE!**

SHE'S STILL UNCONSCIOUS! WE'D BETTER RACE HER TO THE **BAT-CAVE**... SHE NEEDS EMERGENCY TREATMENT-- FAST!



PRESENTLY, IN THEIR SECRET **BAT-CAVE**...

SHE'S COMING TO!

LISTEN! WHAT'S SHE SAYING?

FASTEN YOUR SAFETY BELTS! IF WE REMAIN CALM THE PILOT WILL GET US DOWN SAFELY!

FASTEN YOUR SAFETY BELTS!



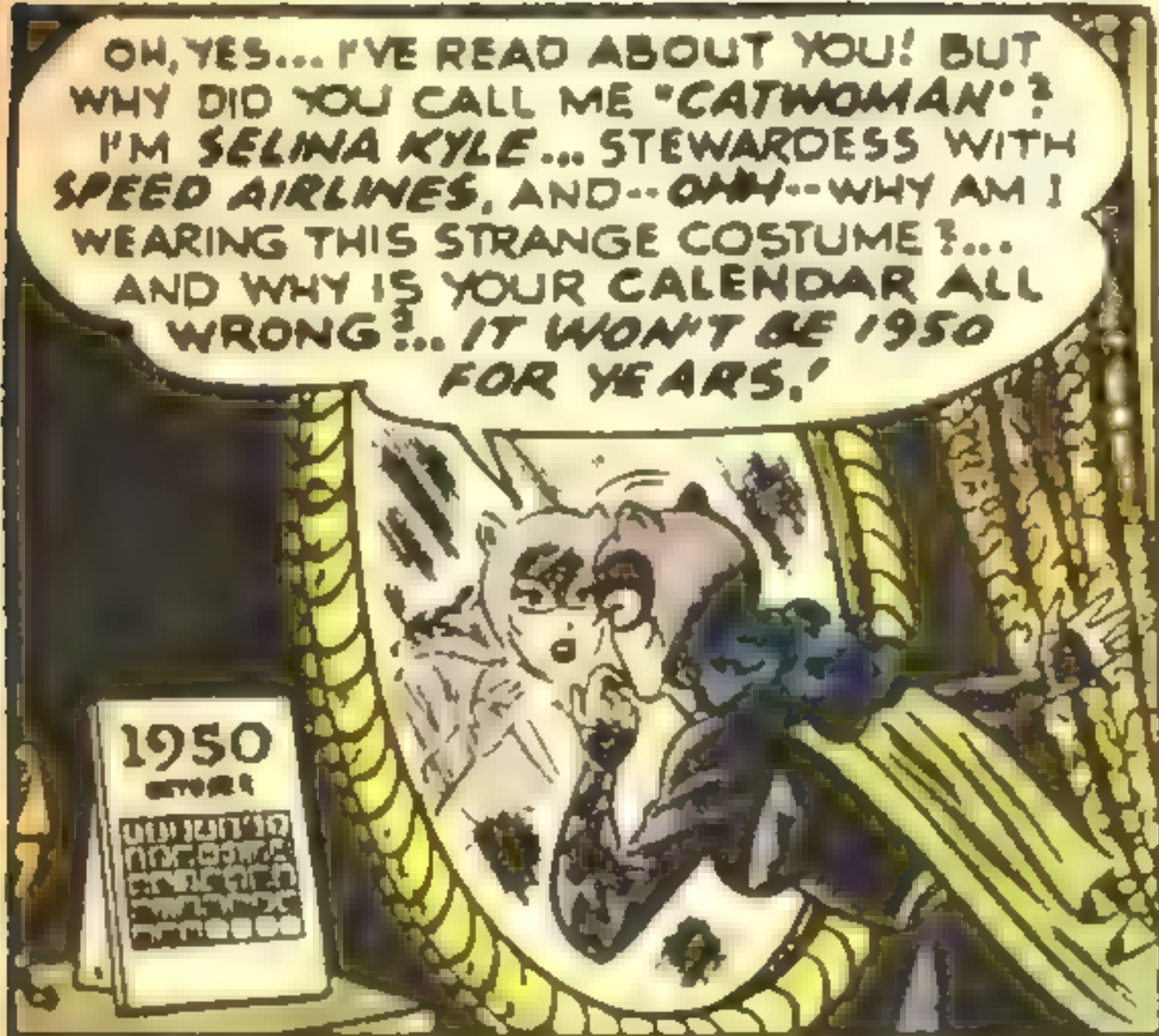
THEN, AS HER EYES SNAP OPEN...

WH-WHERE AM I? WHERE ARE THE PASSENGERS? DID WE LAND SAFELY? WH-WHO ARE YOU?

**CATWOMAN**, YOU KNOW PERFECTLY WELL THAT WE'RE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN!**



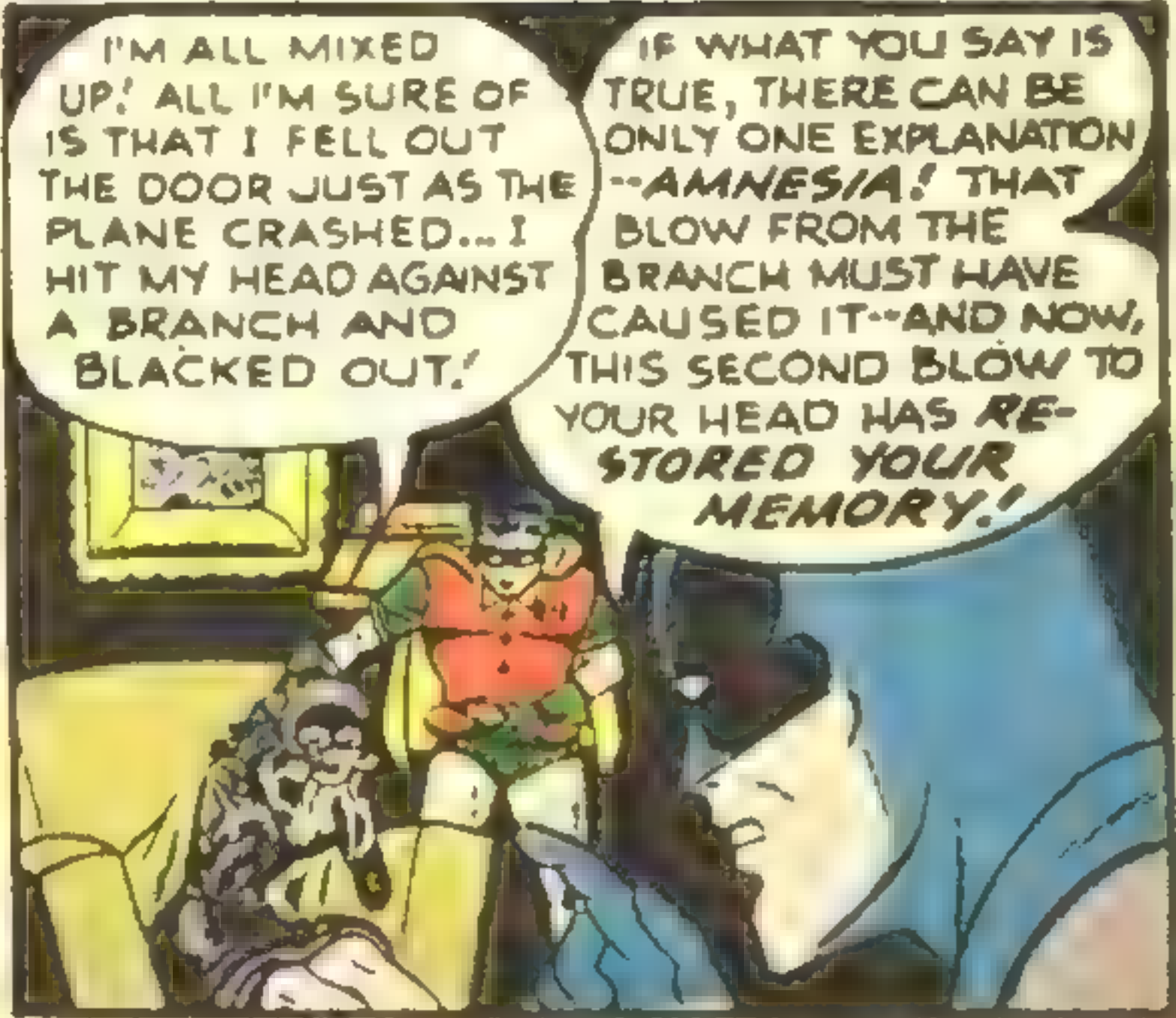
OH, YES... I'VE READ ABOUT YOU! BUT WHY DID YOU CALL ME "CATWOMAN"? I'M SELINA KYLE... STEWARDESS WITH SPEED AIRLINES, AND--OH--WHY AM I WEARING THIS STRANGE COSTUME?... AND WHY IS YOUR CALENDAR ALL WRONG?... IT WON'T BE 1950 FOR YEARS!



A woman with blonde hair and a dark, cat-like costume is looking at a calendar on a wall. The calendar shows the year 1950. She has a confused expression.

I'M ALL MIXED UP! ALL I'M SURE OF IS THAT I FELL OUT THE DOOR JUST AS THE PLANE CRASHED... I HIT MY HEAD AGAINST A BRANCH AND BLACKED OUT!

IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE EXPLANATION--AMNESIA! THAT BLOW FROM THE BRANCH MUST HAVE CAUSED IT--AND NOW, THIS SECOND BLOW TO YOUR HEAD HAS RESTORED YOUR MEMORY!

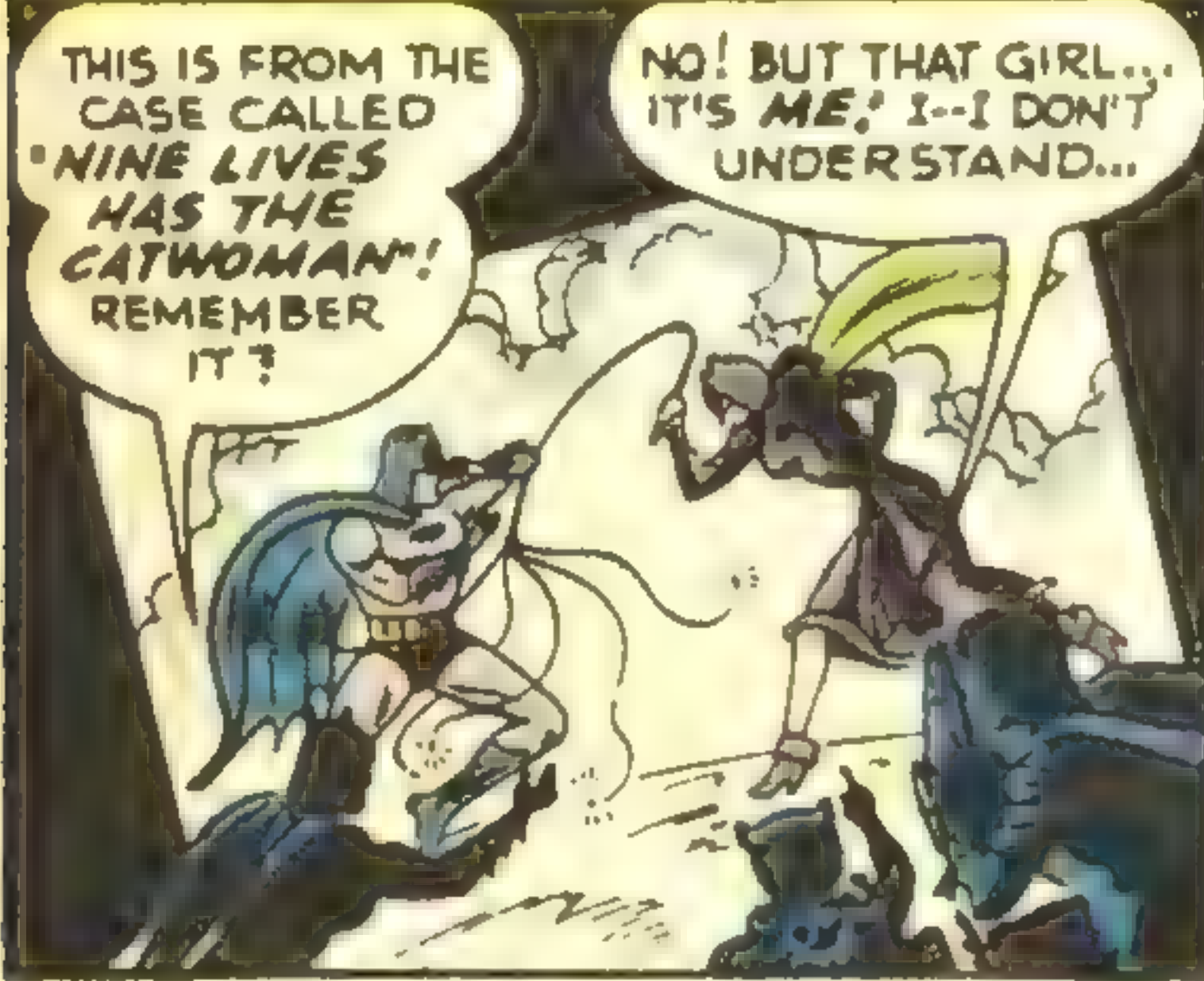


Batman is talking to Selina Kyle. She is sitting on the floor, looking up at him. He is standing and looking down at her.

TO TEST HIS THEORY, BATMAN PROJECTS MICRO-FILM SLIDES, COLLECTED FROM NEWSREELS OF PAST CRIME CASES...

THIS IS FROM THE CASE CALLED "NINE LIVES HAS THE CATWOMAN"! REMEMBER IT?

NO! BUT THAT GIRL... IT'S ME! I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

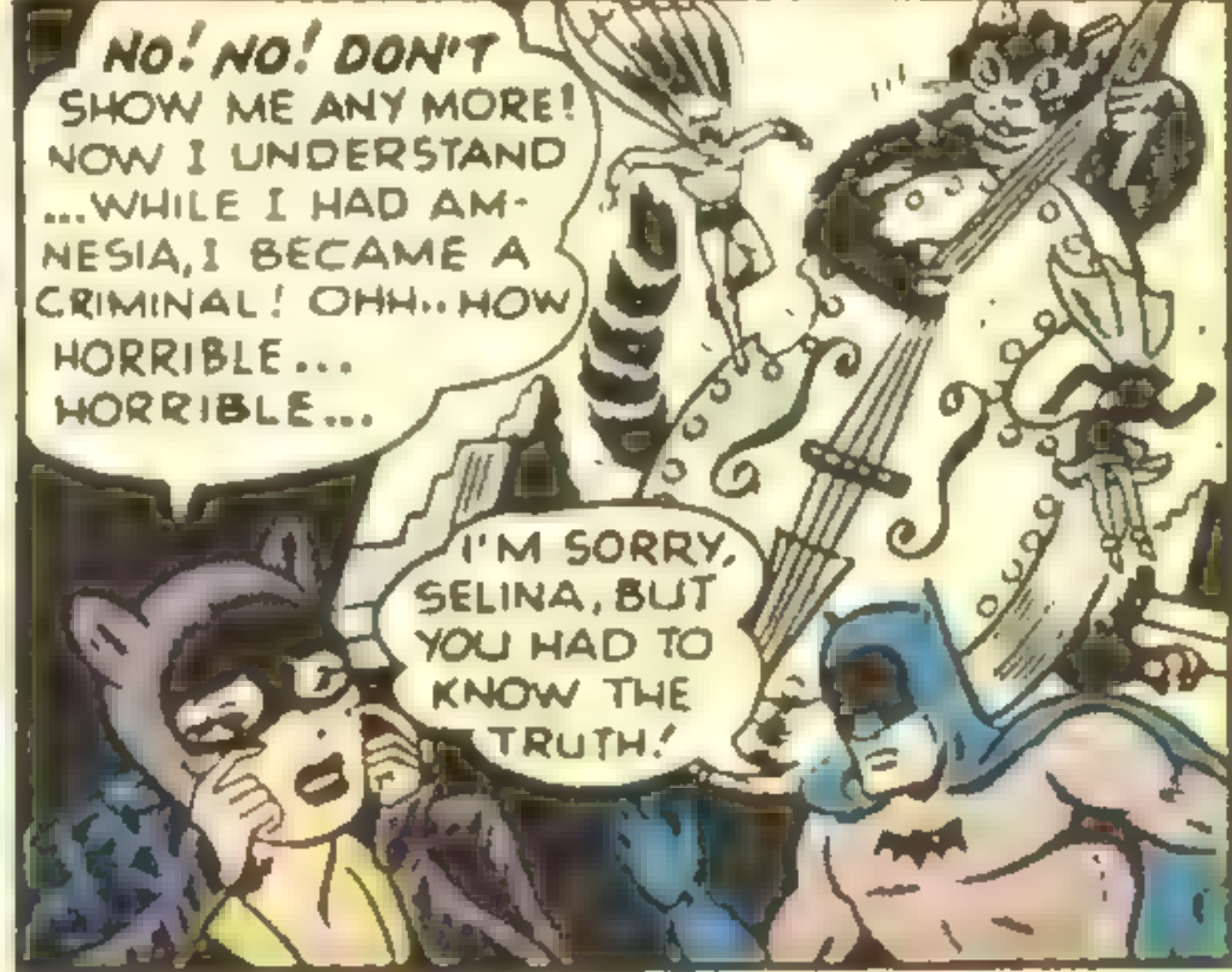


Batman is projecting a film slide of Selina Kyle. She is in a dark, cat-like costume, looking up at him. He is sitting on the floor, looking at the slide.

AND AS A PICTURE HISTORY OF THE CAT-WOMAN'S CRIMES IS SCREENED--"THE DUPED DOMESTICS" "THE CLAWS OF THE CATWOMAN", "THE LADY ROGUES"...

NO! NO! DON'T SHOW ME ANY MORE! NOW I UNDERSTAND... WHILE I HAD AMNESIA, I BECAME A CRIMINAL! OH--HOW HORRIBLE... HORRIBLE...

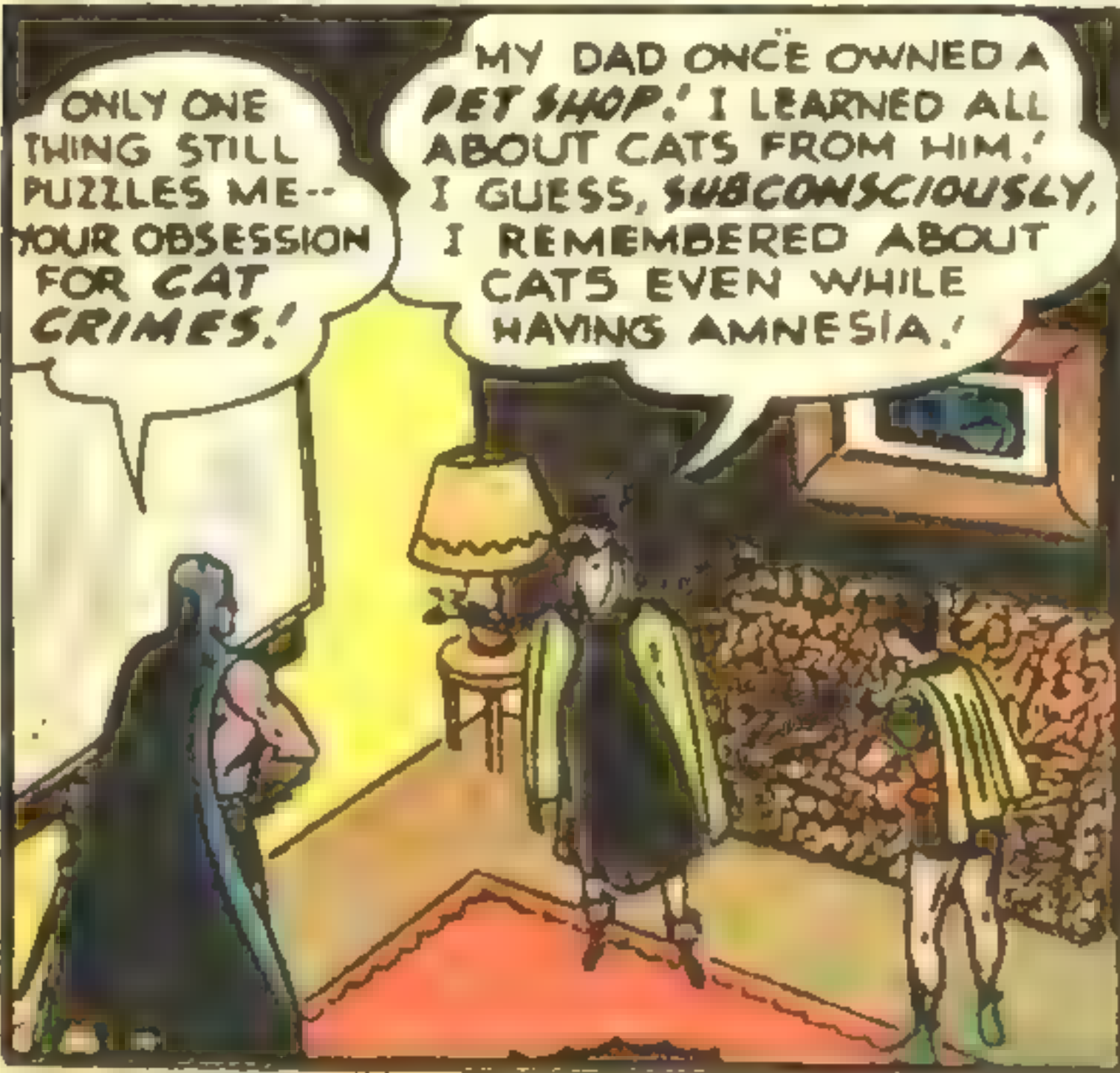
I'M SORRY, SELINA, BUT YOU HAD TO KNOW THE TRUTH!



Selina Kyle is reacting to the film slides. She is sitting on the floor, looking up at Batman. He is standing and looking down at her.

ONLY ONE THING STILL PUZZLES ME--YOUR OBSESSION FOR CAT CRIMES!

MY DAD ONCE OWNED A PET SHOP! I LEARNED ALL ABOUT CATS FROM HIM! I GUESS, SUBCONSCIOUSLY, I REMEMBERED ABOUT CATS EVEN WHILE HAVING AMNESIA!



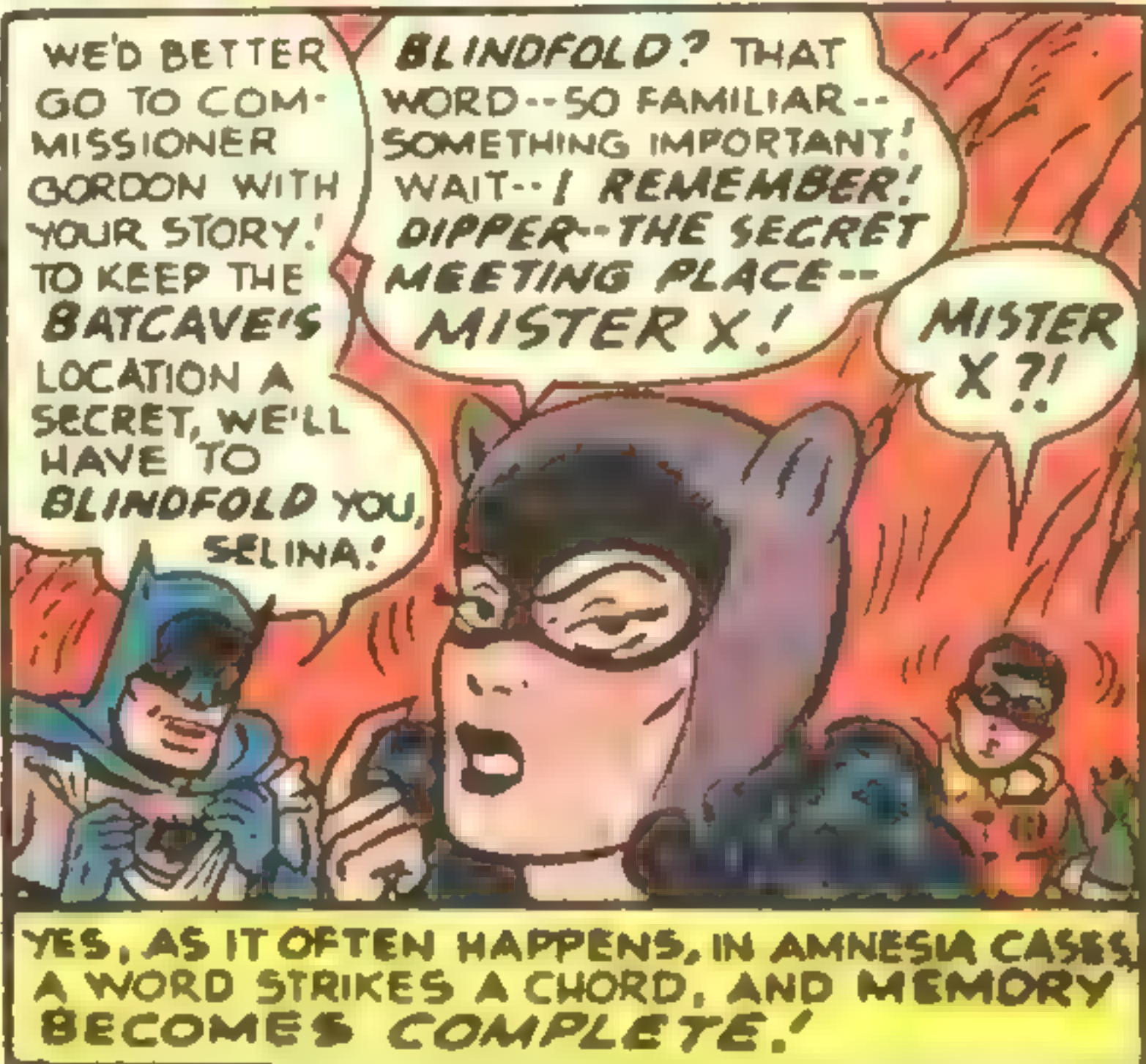
Batman is talking to Selina Kyle. She is sitting on the floor, looking up at him. He is standing and looking down at her.

WE'D BETTER GO TO COM-MISSIONER GORDON WITH YOUR STORY! TO KEEP THE BATCAVE'S LOCATION A SECRET, WE'LL HAVE TO BLINDFOLD YOU, SELINA!

BLINDFOLD? THAT WORD--SO FAMILIAR--SOMETHING IMPORTANT! WAIT--I REMEMBER! DIPPER--THE SECRET MEETING PLACE--MISTER X!

MISTER X?!

YES, AS IT OFTEN HAPPENS, IN AMNESIA CASES, A WORD STRIKES A CHORD, AND MEMORY BECOMES COMPLETE!

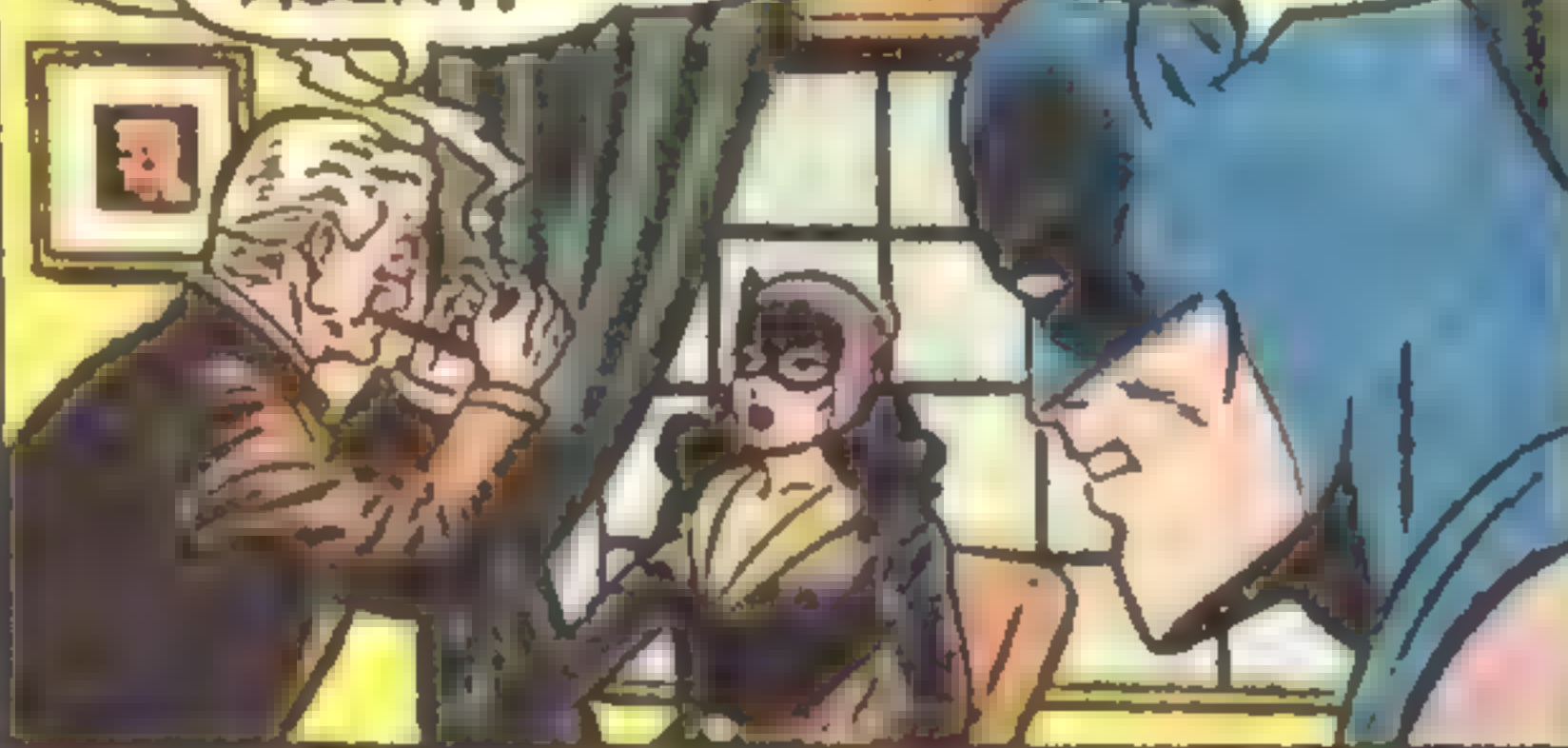


Batman is blindfolding Selina Kyle. She is sitting on the floor, looking up at him. He is standing and looking down at her.

LATER, WHEN SELINA KYLE EXPLAINS THE FACTS TO THE COMMISSIONER...

CATWOMAN... ER... I MEAN MISS KYLE, IF YOU WISH TO ATONE FOR YOUR PAST CRIMES, YOU CAN DO SO BY BECOMING OUR UNDERCOVER AGENT.

THAT'S RIGHT, SELINA... YOU'RE OUR BEST LEAD TO MISTER X, SO WE WANT YOU TO REMAIN AS HIS PARTNER.



NO... PLEASE! I WANT TO PUT MY CRIMINAL PAST BEHIND ME!

YOU WILL... BUT AFTERWARD, REMEMBER, IF YOU PRETEND TO BE MISTER X'S PARTNER, THERE'LL BE NO MORE KILLINGS! YOU'LL BE DOING A PUBLIC SERVICE! AND IF MY PLAN WORKS, YOU'LL ONLY HAVE TO DO ONE JOB!



WITH YOU AS OUR SECRET OPERATIVE, WE'LL GET MISTER X, AND... WHA...?

COMMISSIONER, I JUST PICKED UP THIS PUNK FOR CARRYING A GUN! HE... ULP! SORRY, SIR... I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALONE!



MOUSEY!

THIS MAN IS DANGEROUS! HE'S ALWAYS WANTED TO JOIN MR. X'S GANG! NOW, HE'LL SURELY TELL MR. X ABOUT ME -- AS A BRIBE!

IN THAT CASE, WE MUST LOCK HIM UP! OFFICER, CHARGE HIM WITH CARRYING A CONCEALED WEAPON... NOBODY'S TO SEE HIM TILL THIS CASE IS FINISHED!

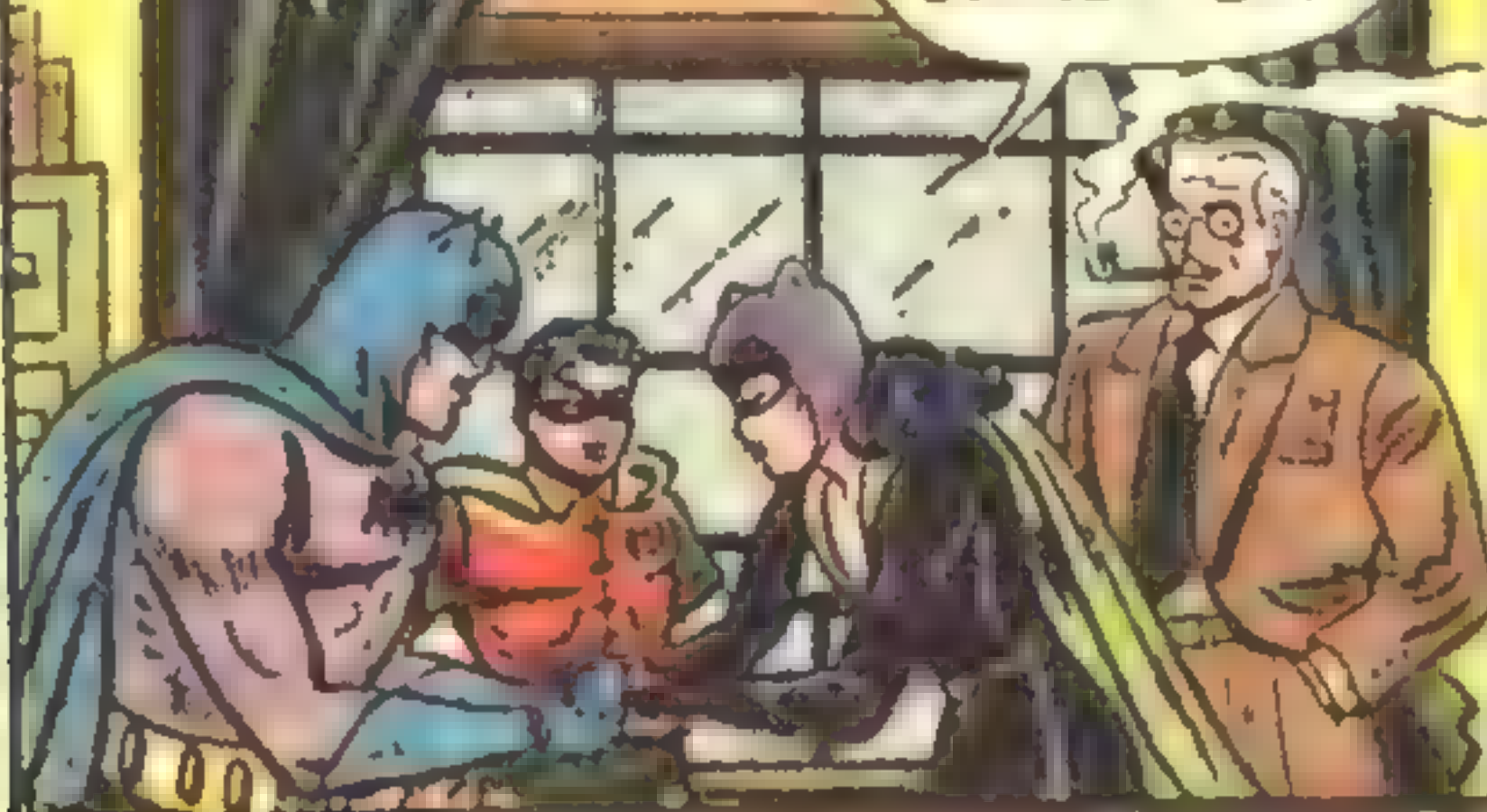


HUH? I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS, CATWOMAN!

AFTER MOUSEY IS LED OFF...

WELL, SELINA KYLE... ALIAS THE CATWOMAN, YOU'RE NOW WORKING FOR THE LAW! DON'T FORGET THAT!

I WON'T -- UNLESS I GET AMNESIA AGAIN! I WAS SCARED, BUT NOT ANYMORE... NOT WHILE MOUSEY IS SAFELY LOCKED UP!



BUT IS HE? FOR AS SOON AS THE FURTIVE LITTLE CROOK IS ALONE IN HIS CELL...

HA, HA... LUCKY THOSE COPPERS DIDN'T FIND THIS FILE HIDDEN IN MY SHOE! ONCE I GET OUT, IT'LL BE BYE-BYE CATWOMAN!



EACH RASP OF THE FILE IS LIKE THE TICK OF A CLOCK... AND WITH EACH PASSING MOMENT, DEATH LOOMS CLOSER FOR SELINA KYLE -- ALIAS THE CATWOMAN!

THAT NIGHT, IN THE HALLWAY OF A FAMED RECORDING FIRM, SECRET OPERATIVE CATWOMAN EMBARKS ON HER UNDERCOVER ASSIGNMENT.

REMEMBER THE STORY OF "BELLING THE CAT"? I'VE DONE JUST THAT! THE COLLAR'S MECHANISM WILL KEEP THIS BELL RINGING CONSTANTLY! NOW GET SET...



THEN, WHILE EVERYONE CHASES AFTER THE Jangling CAT...

NICE WORK, CATWOMAN... THERE AIN'T A PERSON IN SIGHT! WE'LL GET A NICE HAUL HERE, SINCE ALL MASTER RECORDS ARE MADE OF GOLD PLATE!

THE SCOUNDRELS! DURING MY AMNESIA, I'D HAVE GLORIED IN THIS ROBBERY! NOW IT JUST SICKENS ME!



AND AS THE BELLED CAT IS RELEASED INTO A RECORDING STUDIO...

SOMEWHERE THE MOON IS... EEEK!

OMYGOSH! WE'VE GOT TO CATCH THAT CAT BEFORE HER BELL RUINS RECORDS IN THE OTHER STUDIOS TOO! COME ON... EVERYBODY!

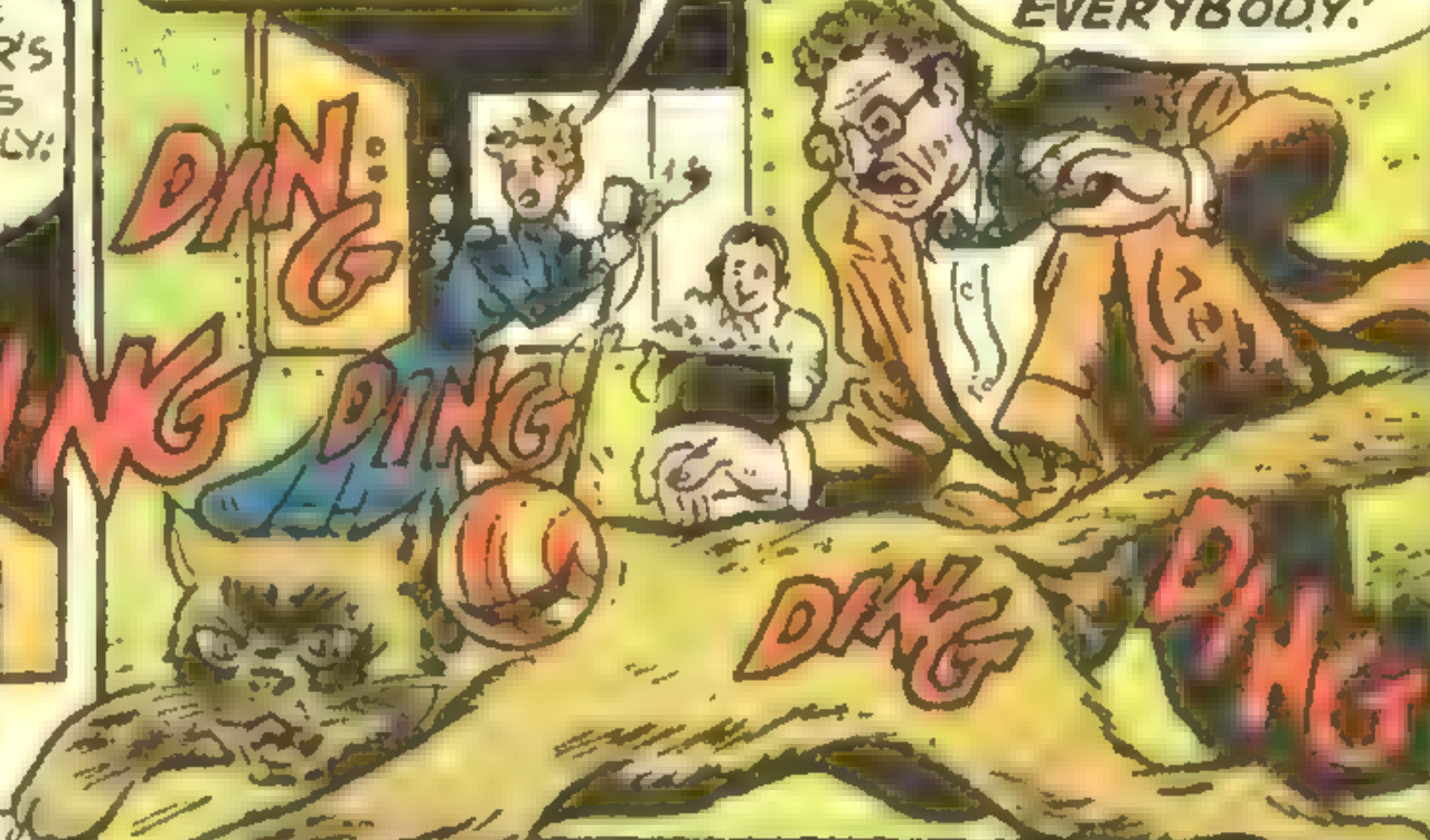
DING

DING

DING

DING

DING

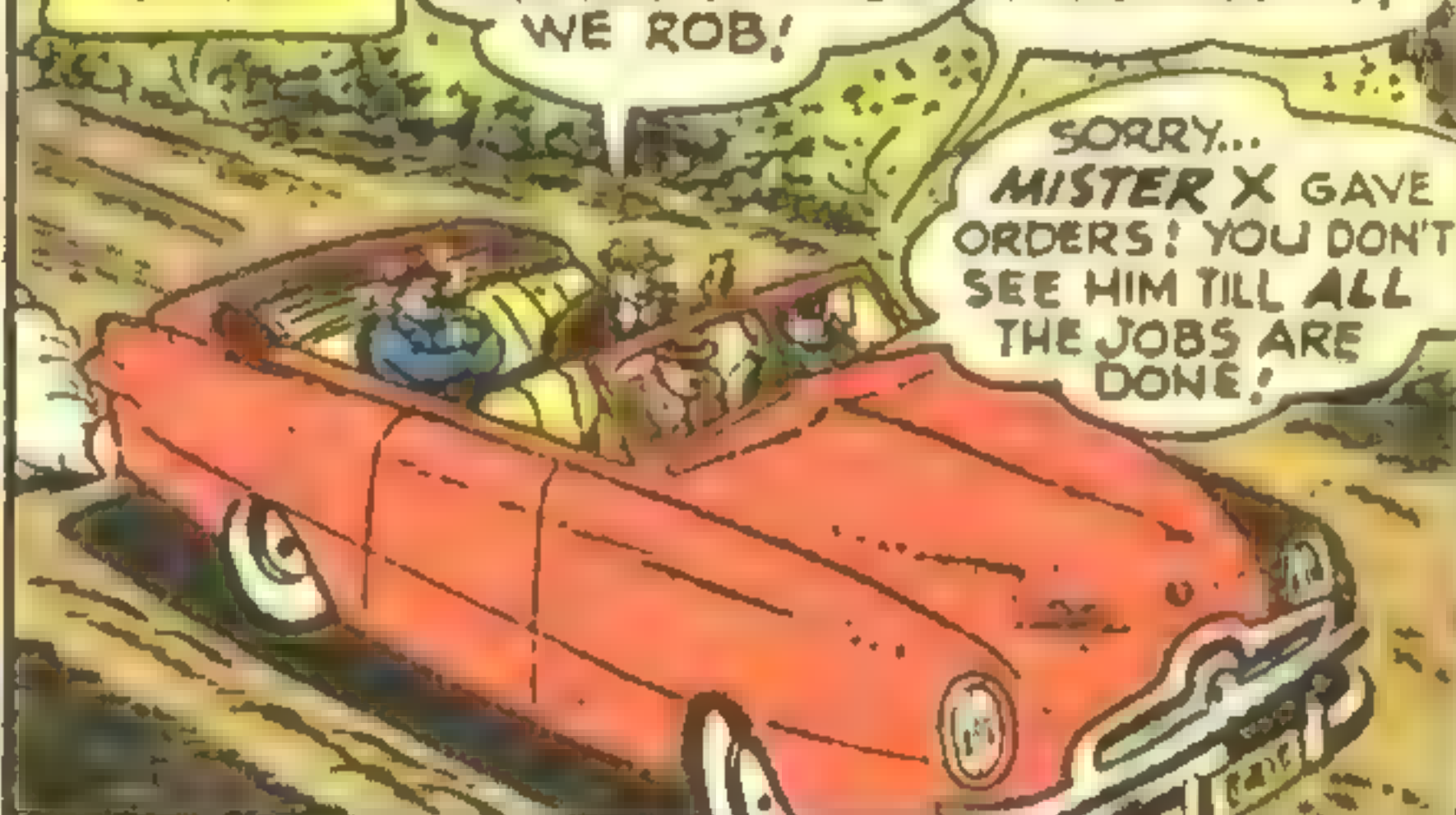


LATER, ON A LONELY ROAD...

HERE'S YOUR SHARE, CATWOMAN... AND THIS PAPER HAS THE NAME OF THE NEXT PLACE WE ROB!

BUT WAIT... I THOUGHT I WAS TO DEAL WITH MISTER X PERSONALLY!

SORRY... MISTER X GAVE ORDERS! YOU DON'T SEE HIM TILL ALL THE JOBS ARE DONE!



STILL LATER, AT HEADQUARTERS...

SO--THE WELPRUF CASH REGISTER COMPANY IS NEXT ON THEIR LIST!

YES, COM-MISSIONER.. BUT MUST I GO ON WITH THIS? I FIND STEALING SO HATEFUL... SO HORRIBLE!

WE'LL HAVE TO CHANGE OUR PLANS-- GET MISTER X DIFFERENTLY! NOW, LISTEN..



MEANWHILE, IN MOUSEY'S CELL...

ONE BAR GONE! TWO MORE TO GO! THEN, I'LL BE OUT TO TIP OFF THE GANG ABOUT CATWOMAN!

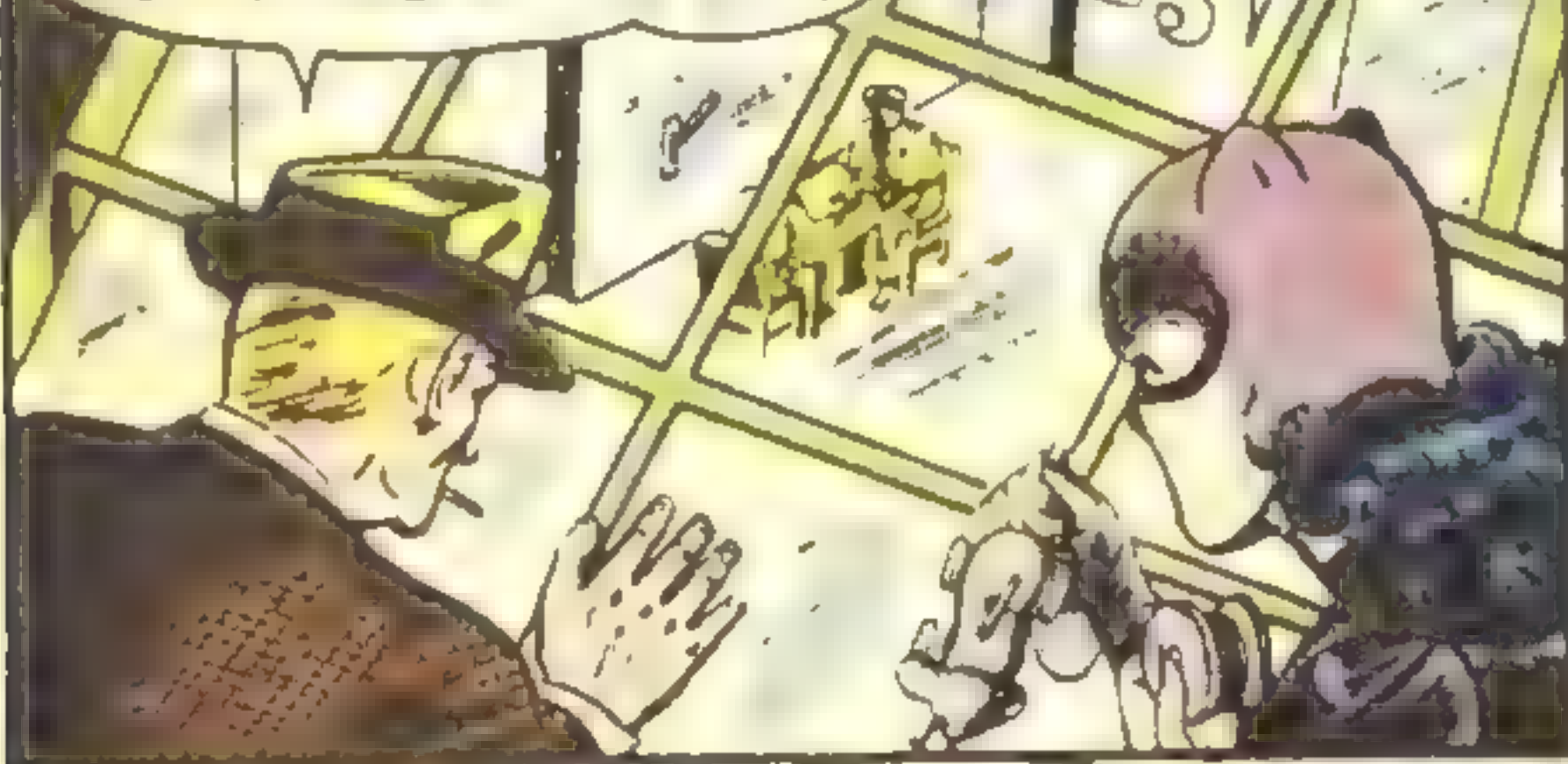


WILL MOUSEY ESCAPE IN TIME? WILL HE BE ABLE TO EXPOSE THE CATWOMAN TO CERTAIN DEATH?

LATER, ATOP THE WELL-GUARDED CASH REGISTER PLANT...

THE DOOR OPENS BY ELECTRICITY--WHEN A GUARD PUSHES DOWN THAT SWITCH LEVER! BUT HOW DO WE GET AT THE SWITCH? IT'S OVER 20 FEET DOWN--AND AT THE SIDE!

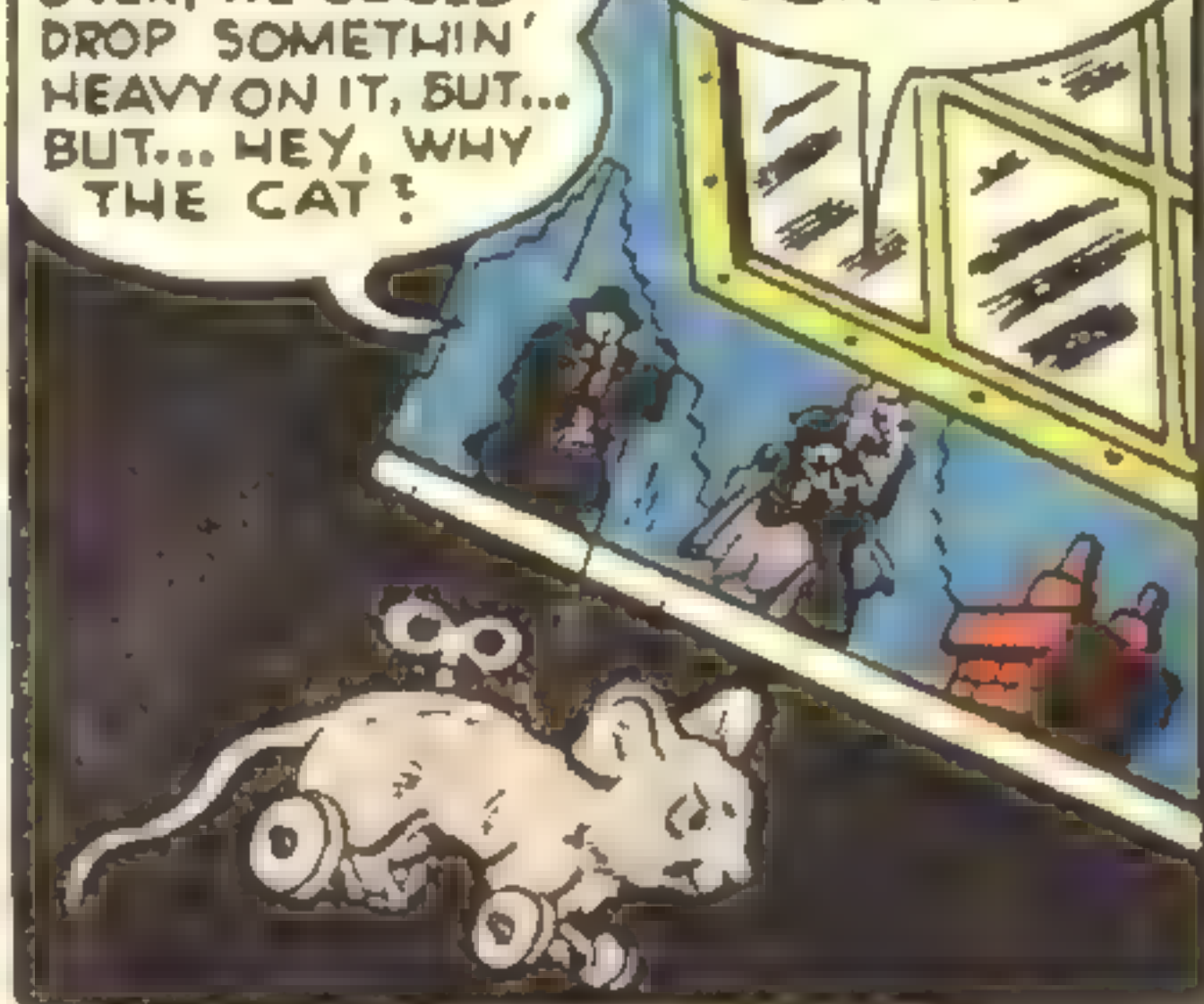
JUST WATCH THIS **MECHANICAL MOUSE!**



SILENTLY, THE CORD UNREELS UNTIL THE "MOUSE" ALMOST TOUCHES THE FLOOR..

IF THAT LEVER WASN'T SET SO FAR OVER, WE COULD DROP SOMETHIN' HEAVY ON IT, BUT... BUT... HEY, WHY THE CAT?

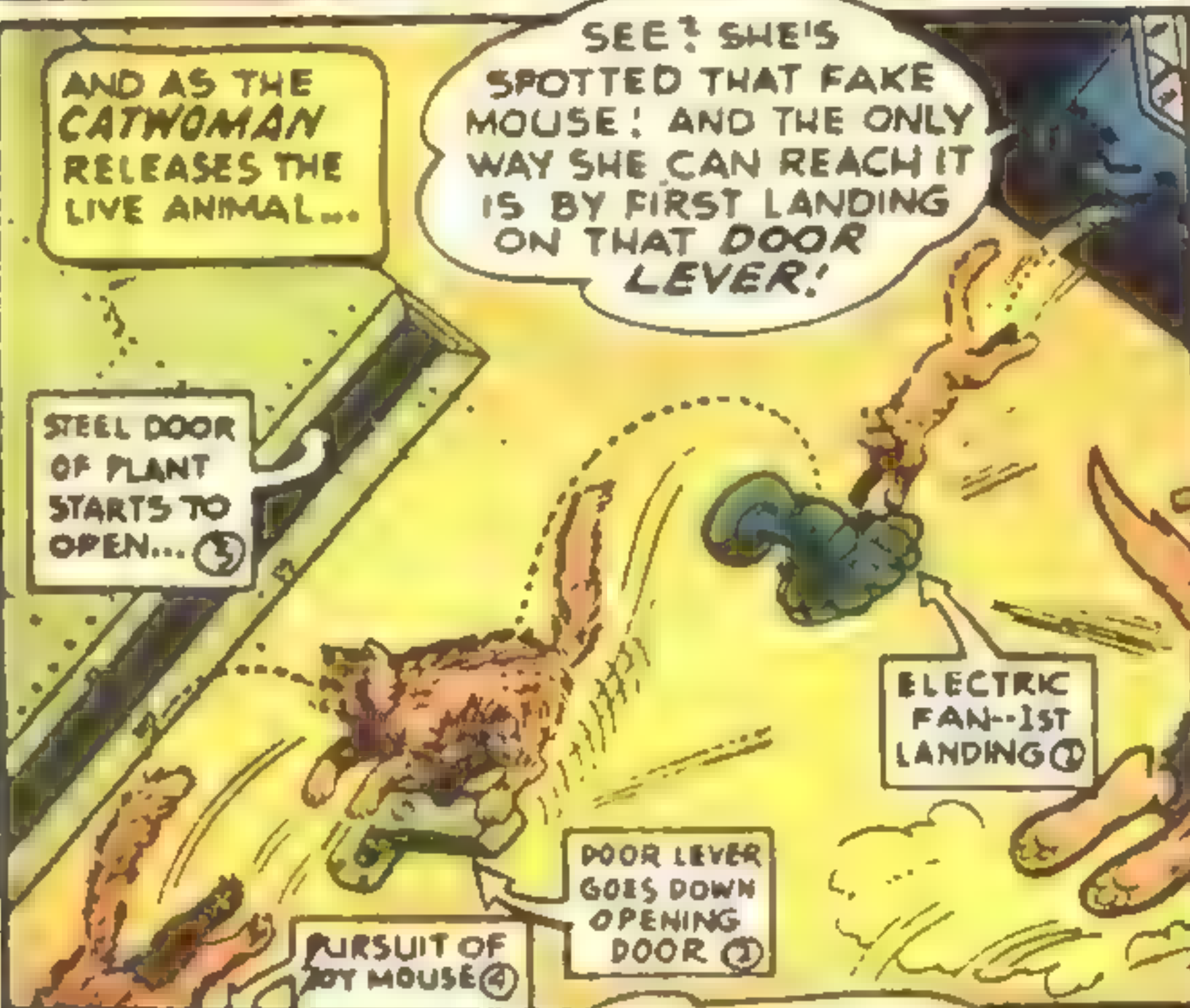
THIS CAT WILL OPEN THE DOOR FOR US!



AND AS THE **CATWOMAN** RELEASES THE LIVE ANIMAL...

SEE? SHE'S SPOTTED THAT FAKE MOUSE! AND THE ONLY WAY SHE CAN REACH IT IS BY FIRST LANDING ON THAT **DOOR LEVER!**

STEEL DOOR OF PLANT STARTS TO OPEN... ③



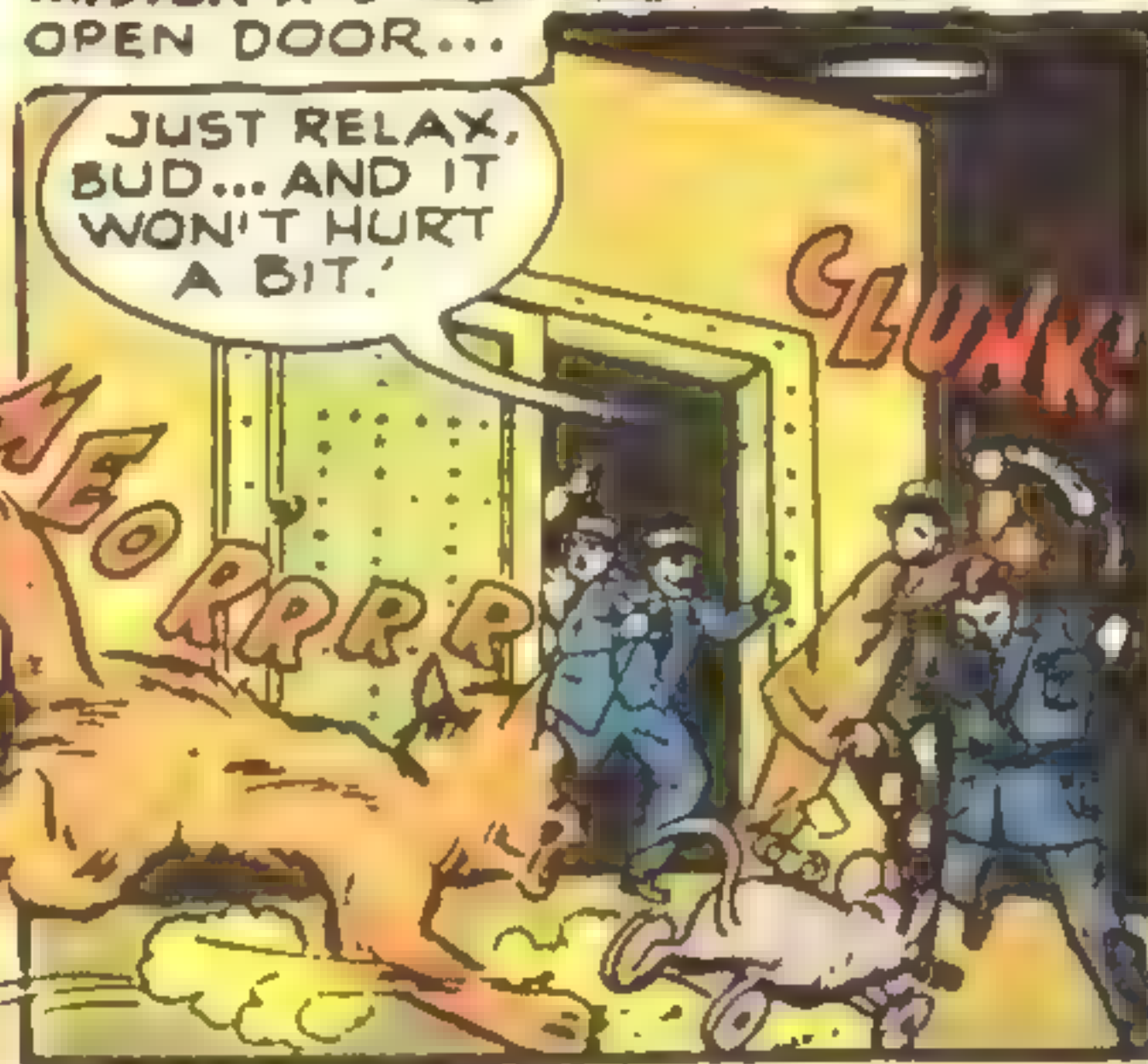
ELECTRIC FAN--1ST LANDING ②

DOOR LEVER GOES DOWN OPENING DOOR ①

PURSUIT OF JOY MOUSE ④

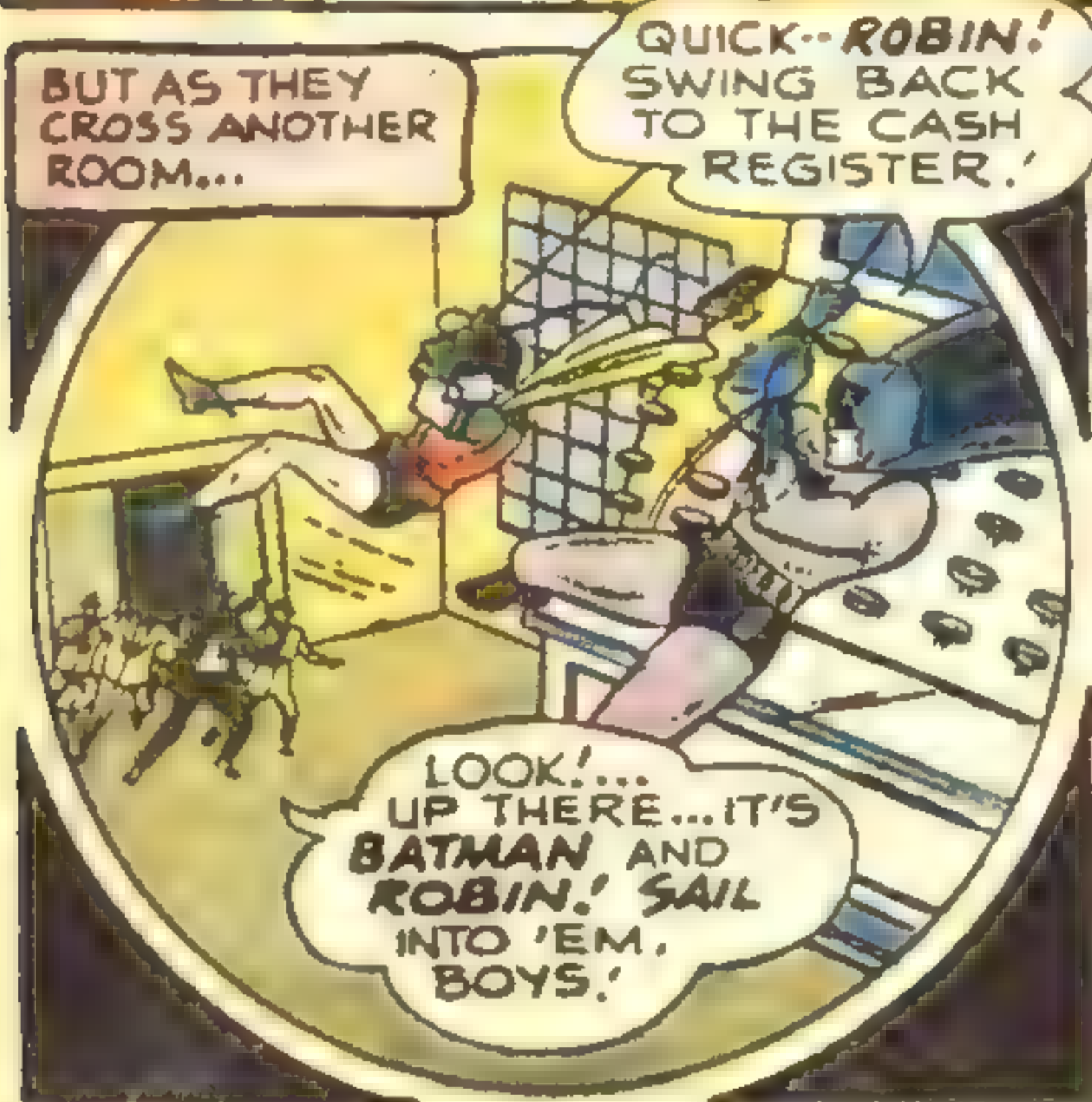
BEFORE THE GUARDS REALIZE IT, **MISTER X'S** MEN ARE THROUGH THE OPEN DOOR...

JUST RELAX, BUD... AND IT WON'T HURT A BIT!



BUT AS THEY CROSS ANOTHER ROOM...

QUICK--**ROBIN!** SWING BACK TO THE CASH REGISTER!



LOOK!... UP THERE... IT'S **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN!** SAIL INTO 'EM, BOYS!

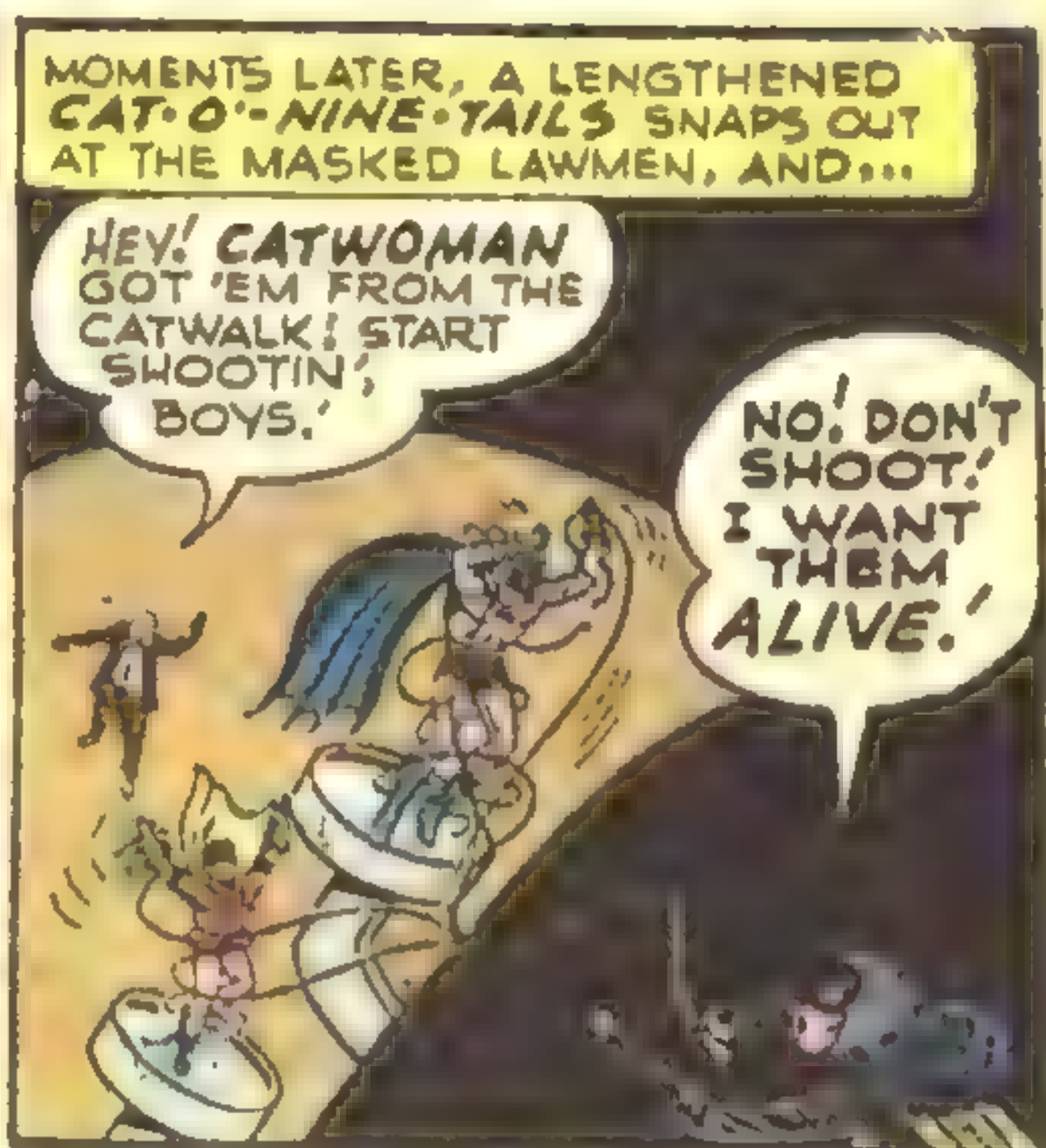
UH-UH... NO SAILING TODAY!





MISSED, **BLAST 'EM!** THEY KEEP HOPPING AROUND!

TIME FOR ME TO GO INTO ACTION!



HEY! **CATWOMAN** GOT 'EM FROM THE CATWALK! START SHOOTIN', BOYS!

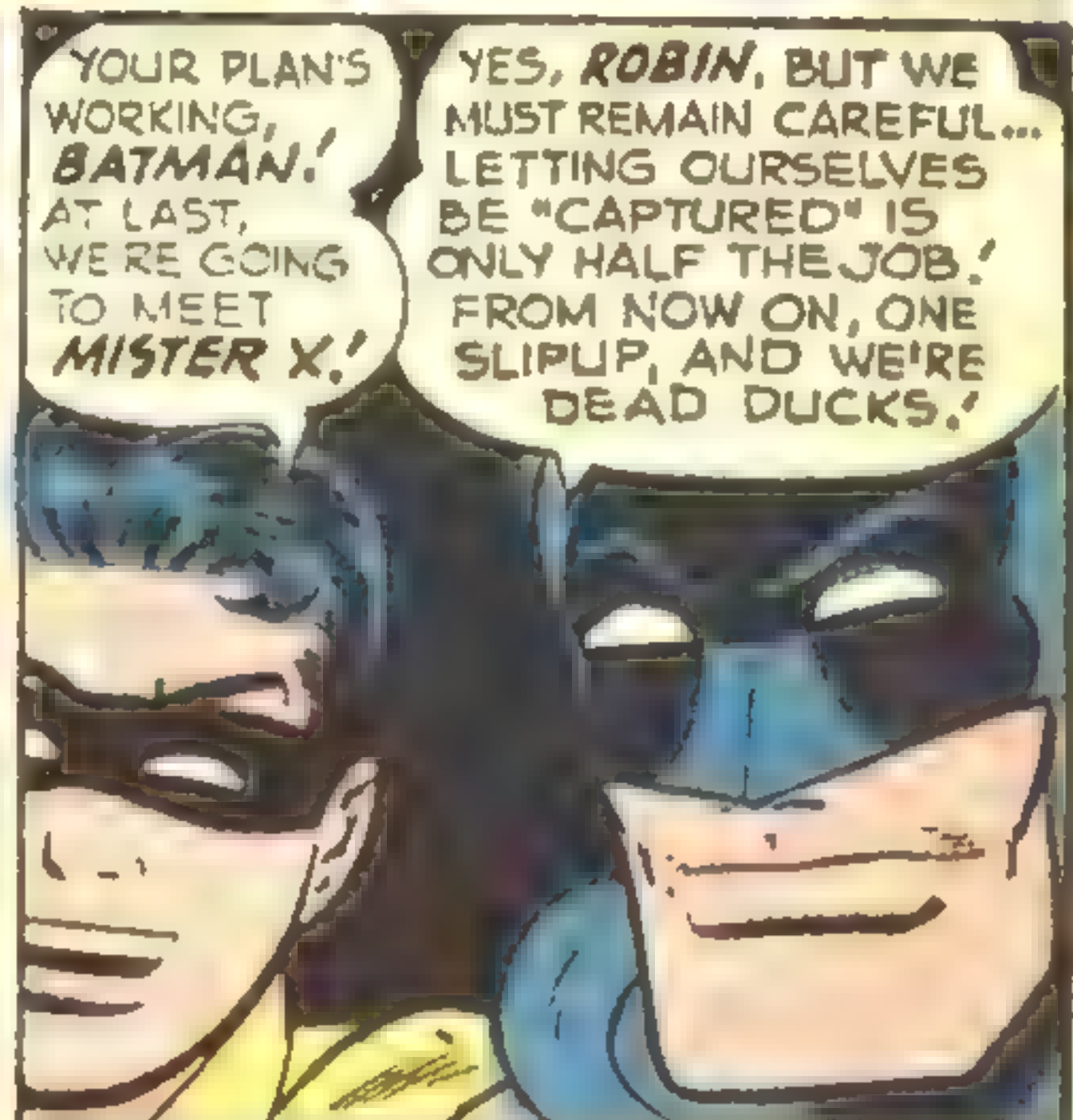
NO! DON'T SHOOT! I WANT THEM ALIVE!



HUH? WHAT'S WHAT'S THE MATTER, **CATWOMAN?** GOIN' SOFT?

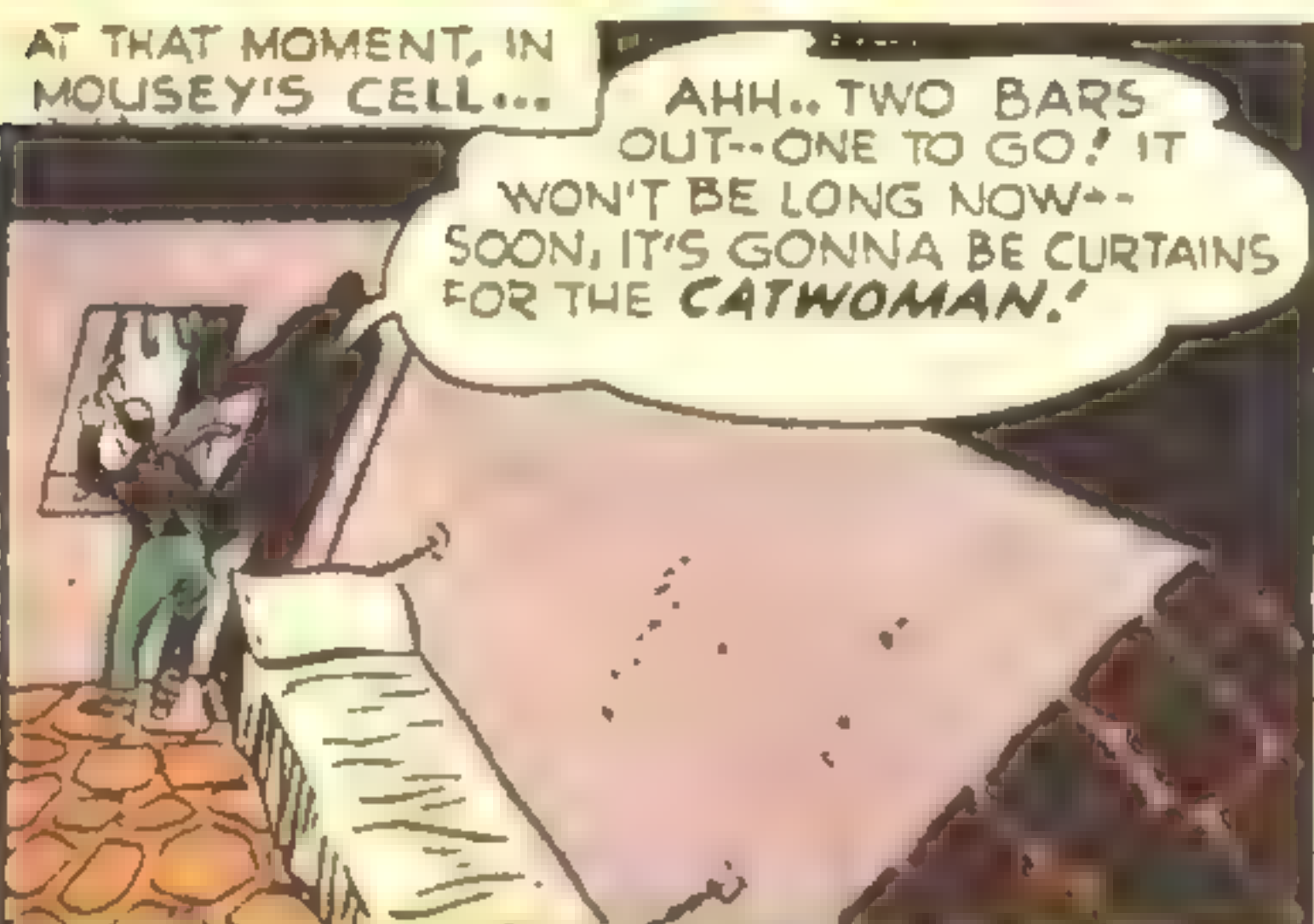
FOOLS! MY DEAL WITH **MISTER X** DIDN'T INCLUDE THE CAPTURE OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**! I WANT A **BONUS** FOR THIS, AND I DON'T TALK BUSINESS TILL I SEE **MISTER X** IN PERSON!

OKAY! THIS IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH FOR ME TO CONTACT HIM!



YOUR PLAN'S WORKING, **BATMAN**! AT LAST, WE'RE GOING TO MEET **MISTER X**!

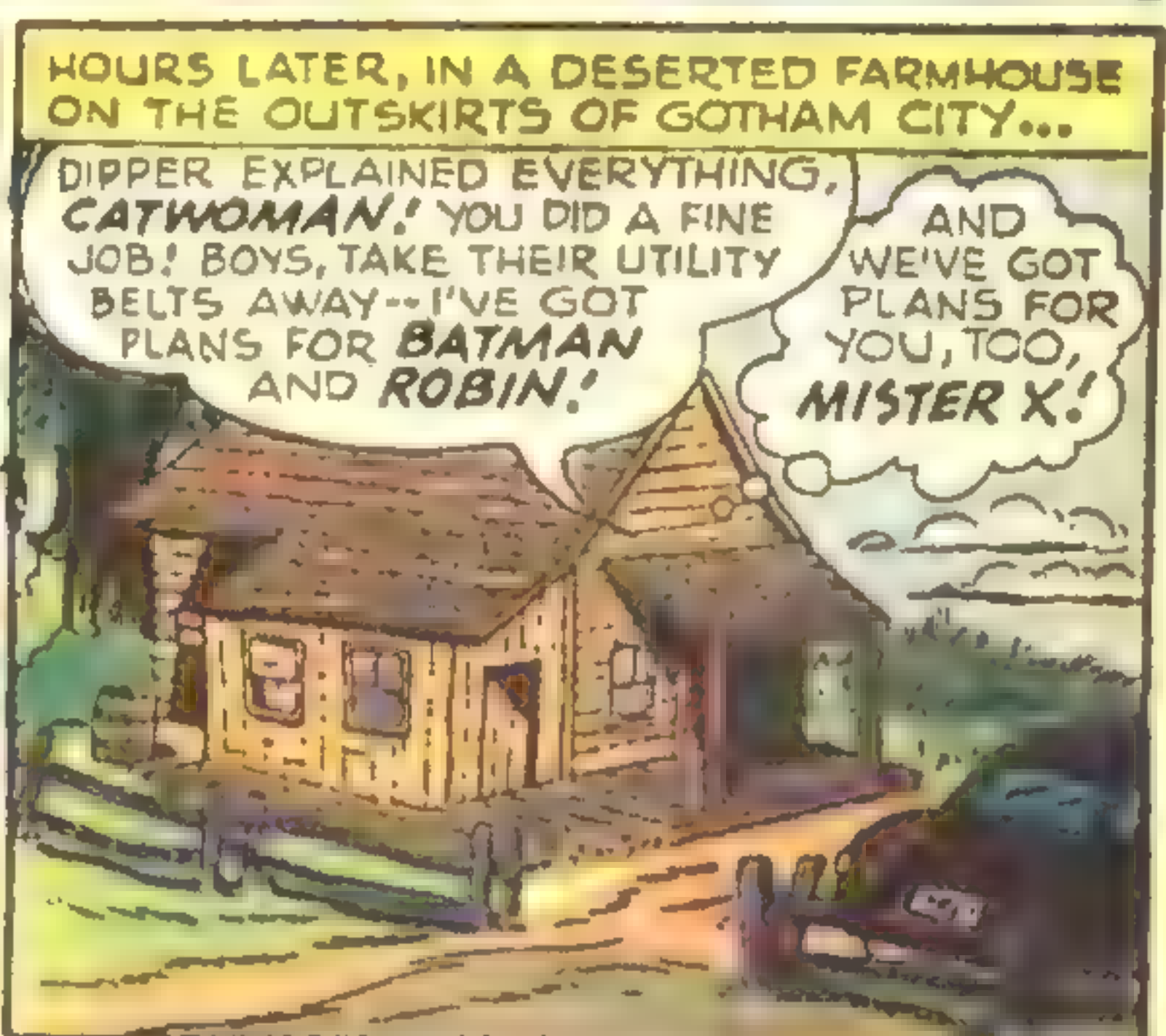
YES, **ROBIN**, BUT WE MUST REMAIN CAREFUL... LETTING OURSELVES BE "CAPTURED" IS ONLY HALF THE JOB! FROM NOW ON, ONE SLIPUP, AND WE'RE DEAD DUCKS!



AT THAT MOMENT, IN MOUSEY'S CELL...

AHH.. TWO BARS OUT--ONE TO GO! IT WON'T BE LONG NOW-- SOON, IT'S GONNA BE CURTAINS FOR THE **CATWOMAN**!

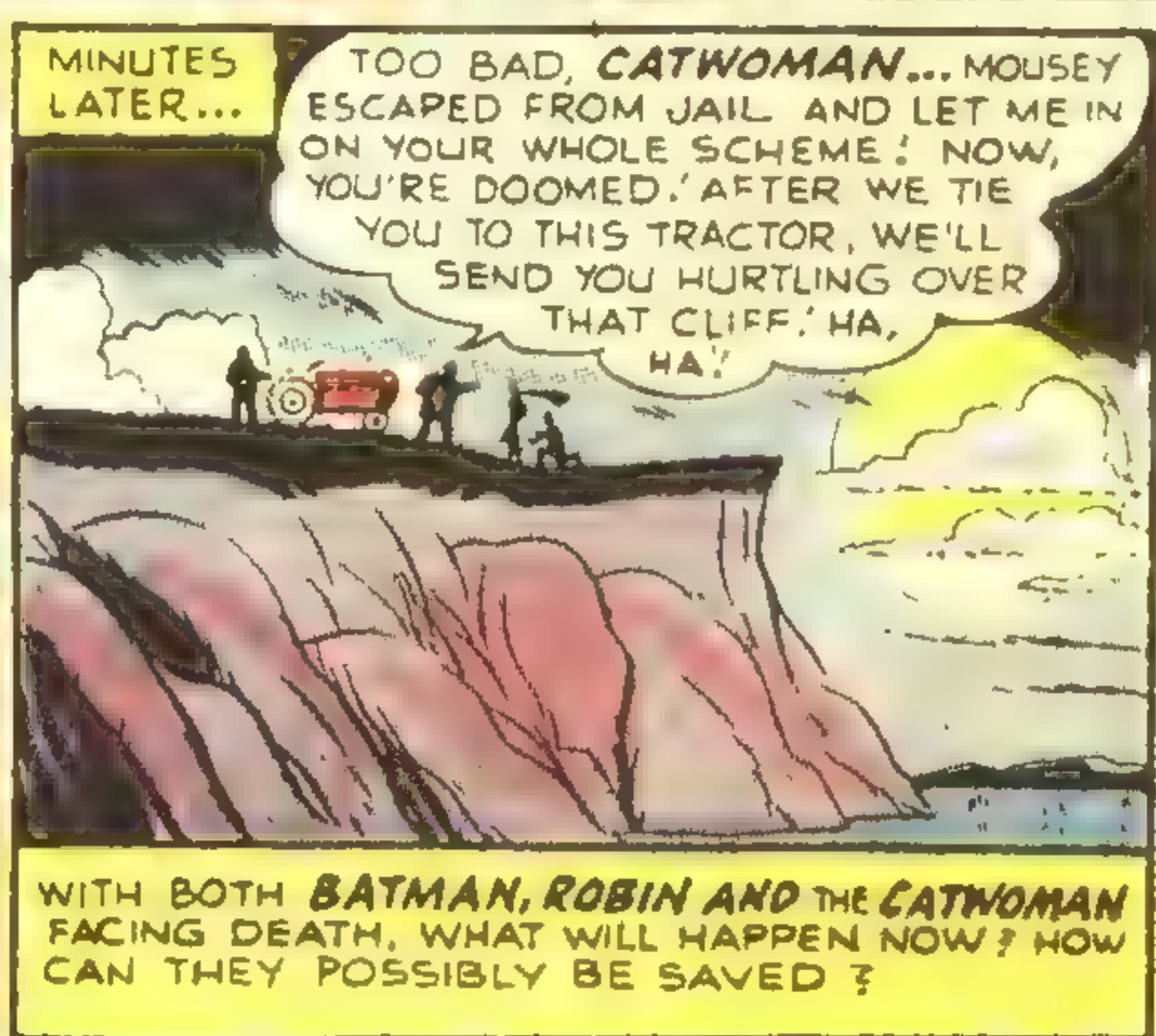
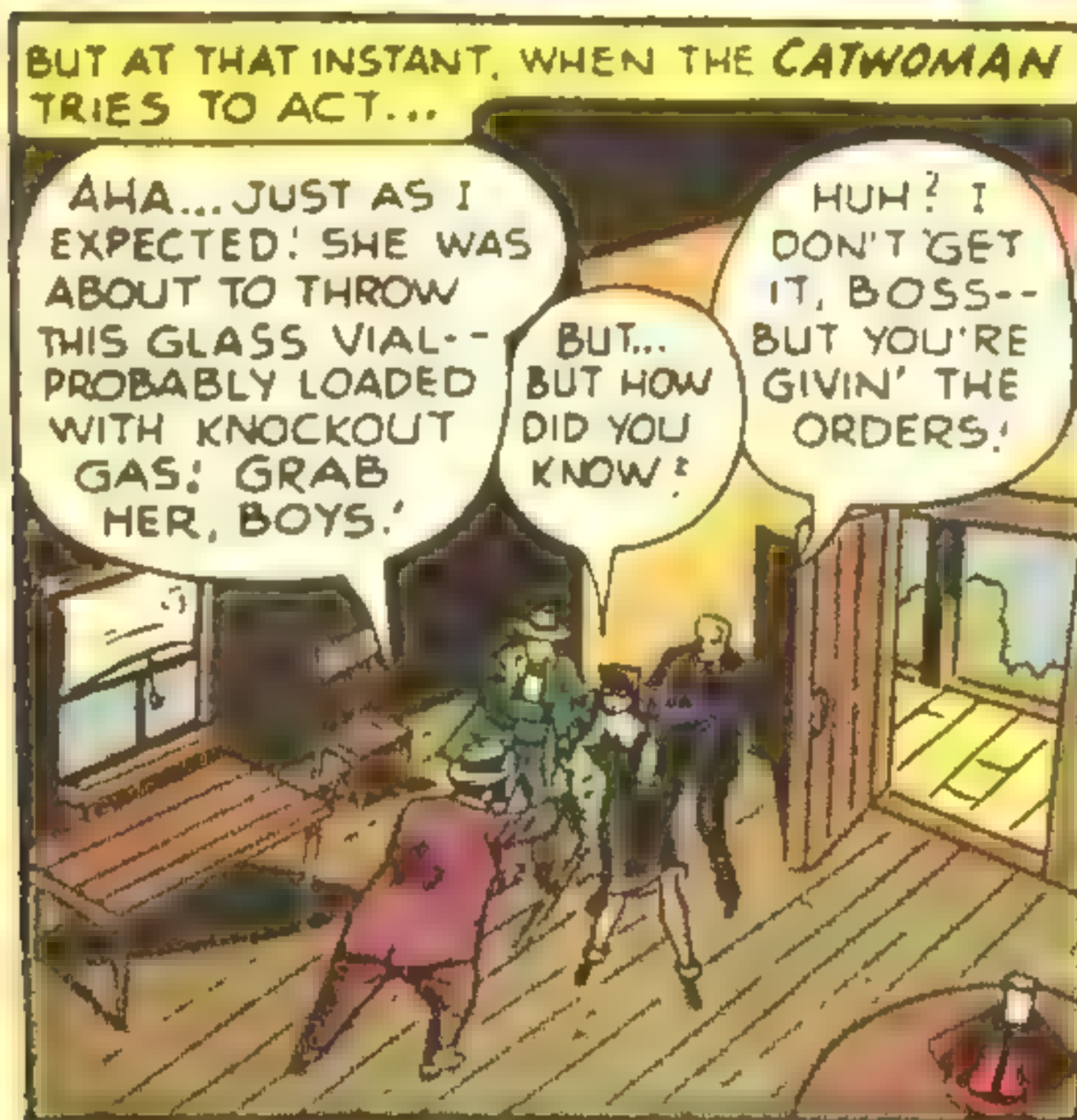
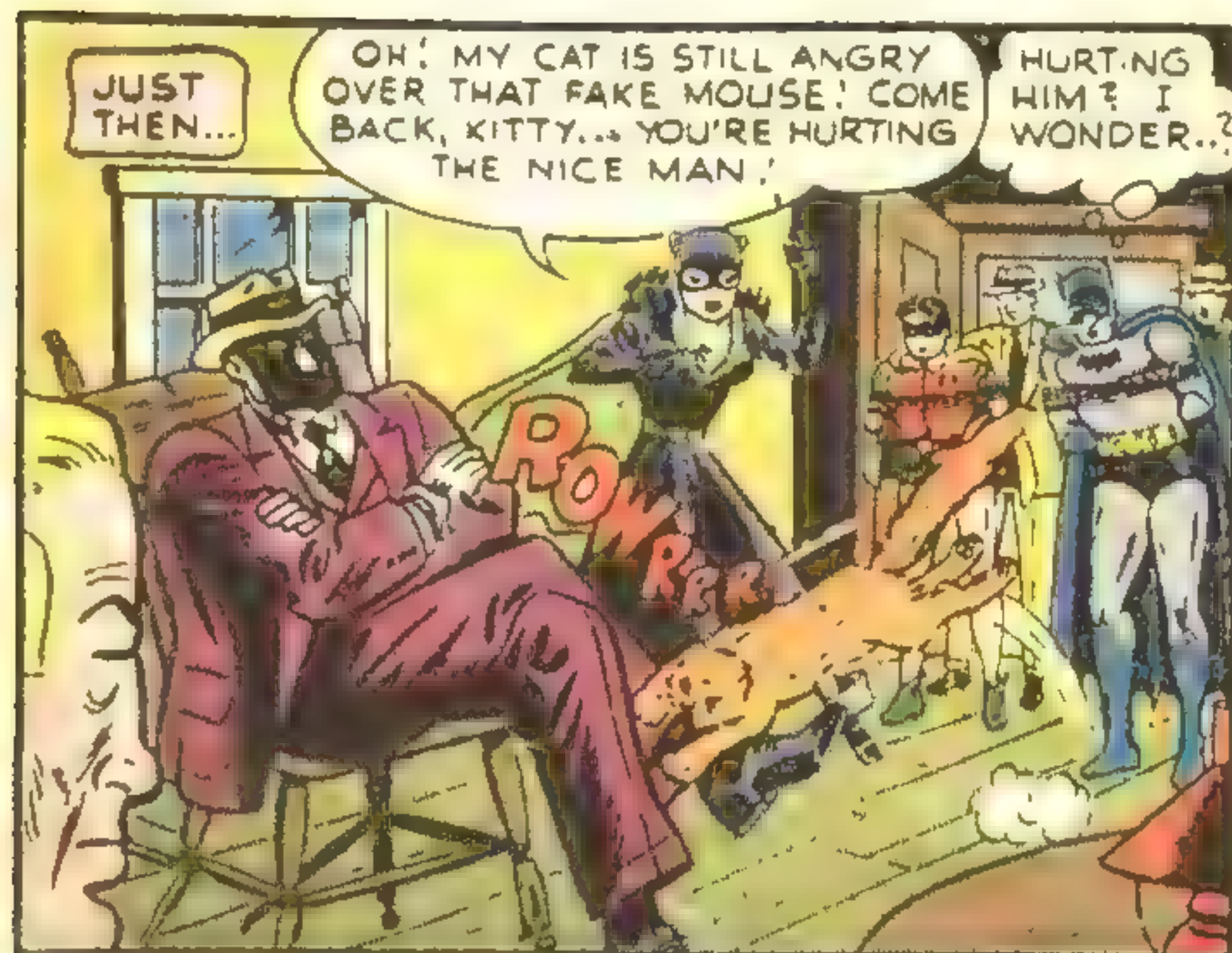
AND WILL IT ALSO BE CURTAINS FOR **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**? FOR IF THE **CATWOMAN** DIES, THE PLAN TO RESCUE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** DIES WITH HER!



HOURS LATER, IN A DESERTED FARMHOUSE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY...

DIPPER EXPLAINED EVERYTHING, **CATWOMAN**! YOU DID A FINE JOB! BOYS, TAKE THEIR UTILITY BELTS AWAY--I'VE GOT PLANS FOR **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!

AND WE'VE GOT PLANS FOR YOU, TOO, **MISTER X**!



... MEANWHILE...

WE CAN'T RISK WAITING FOR THE CATWOMAN ANY LONGER! ROBIN, HELP ME PUSH THIS MILL STONE TO THE FLOOR! HURRY!

SURE... BUT I DON'T GET IT, BATMAN!

WHEN THE TWO MILL STONES LIE IN A LINE POINTING TO THE STRONG DOOR...

THERE! I'VE WEDGED THESE SACKS OF RICE BETWEEN THE DOOR AND THE FIRST STONE! GRAB THAT WATER HOSE, ROBIN, AND START DRENCHING THE RICE BAGS!

GOSH, I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING... I DON'T!

RICE SWELLS ENORMOUSLY WHEN IT'S WET! IT'S A KNOWN FACT THAT A WET CARGO OF RICE USED TO SMASH OPEN THE HULLS OF WOODEN SAILING SHIPS!

OH... I GET IT! YOU FIGURE THE WET RICE WILL EXPAND ENOUGH TO BURST DOWN THAT DOOR! IT'LL BE A NICE TRY, EVEN IF IT DOESN'T WORK!

SECONDS LATER...

OH! THEY'RE DEAD! BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE DEAD! SOB!

GOOD! NOW, DIPPER, START THE TRACTOR MOTOR! IT WILL TAKE THIS DOUBLE-CROSSER RIGHT OVER THE CLIFF!

DOUBLE-CROSSER? Y'MEAN SHE HELD OUT SOME LOOT? AND WHAT'S THAT CRACK YOU MADE ABOUT MOUSEY?

BOOM!

.... AND AS THE TRACTOR GROWLS OMINOUSLY...

I'LL EXPLAIN THINGS LATER, BOYS! LET ME WATCH THIS FIRST!

RRR ROARR

BATMAN, WE'RE TOO LATE! THE CATWOMAN'S HEADED OVER THE CLIFF!

INSTANTLY, BATMAN WHIPS UP A DISCARDED, BROKEN WHEAT SCYTHE AND HISSES IT FORWARD LIKE A BOOMERANG....

SNAP

NOVEMBER, 1968

## Cutty Sark

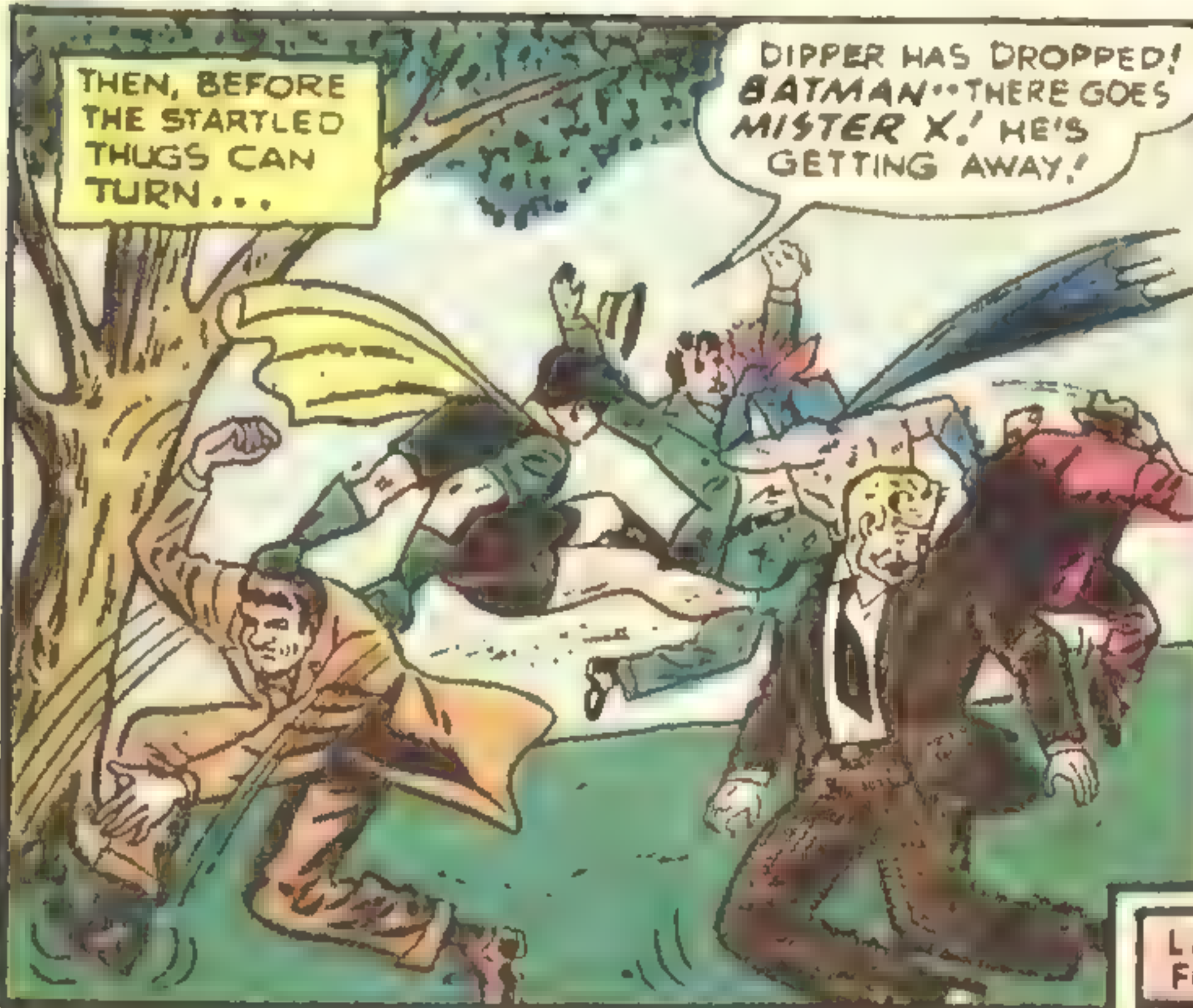


The clipper Cutty Sark could outrun them all. She carried almost three quarters of an acre of sail, and moved at an incredible 17 knots. She was the most famous of the China Clippers. These "greyhounds of the sea" ran the Great Annual Tea Race from China to England, with the first of the season's new tea. The winner could demand top dollar for his cargo. Revell's new model kit of the Cutty Sark looks just as fast as the original. The kit is designed for easier-than-usual assembly. You can build it in a weekend. Less than \$6.00, and you'll be proud of the result.

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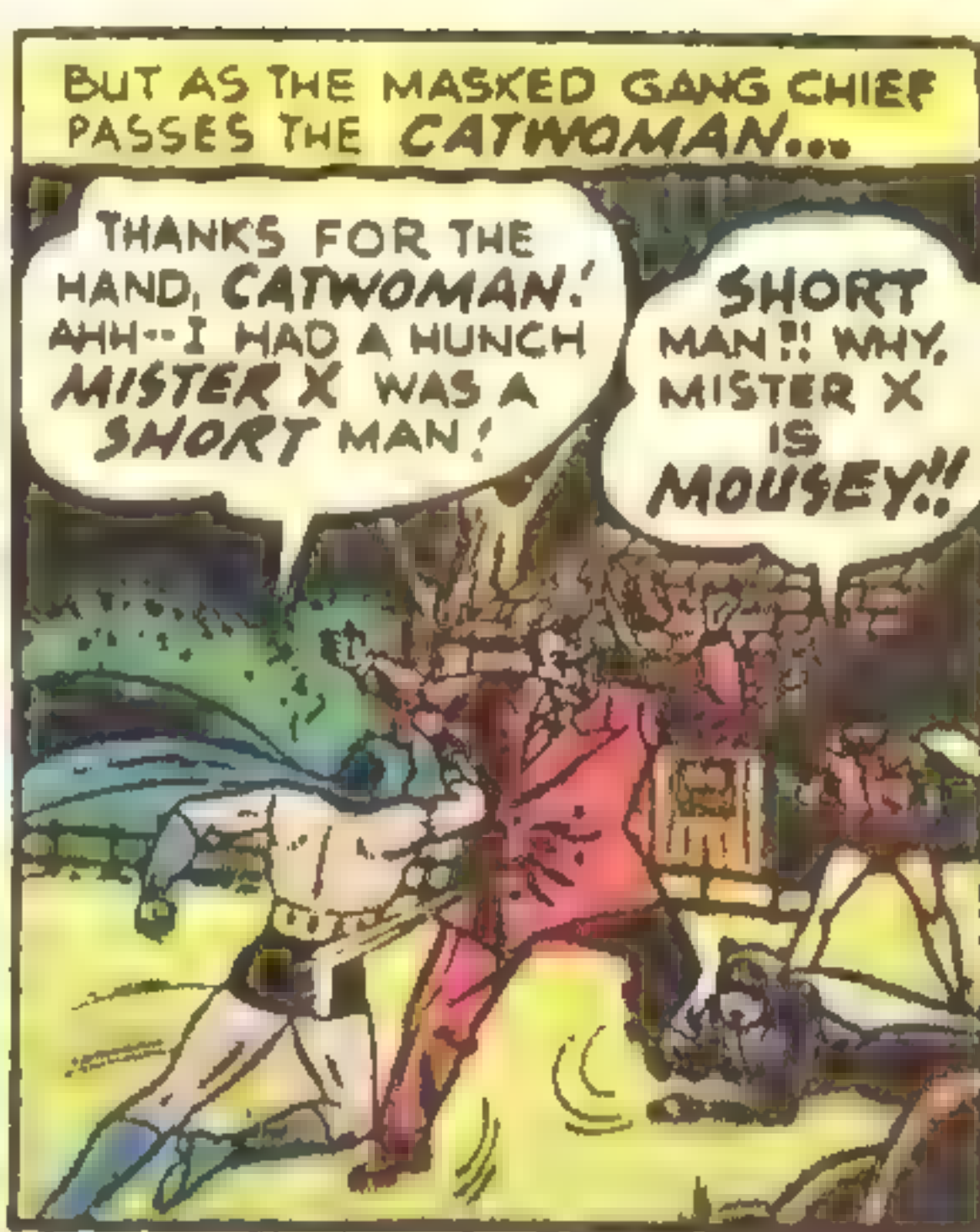
Model of the Month  
Cutty Sark





THEN, BEFORE THE STARTLED THUGS CAN TURN...

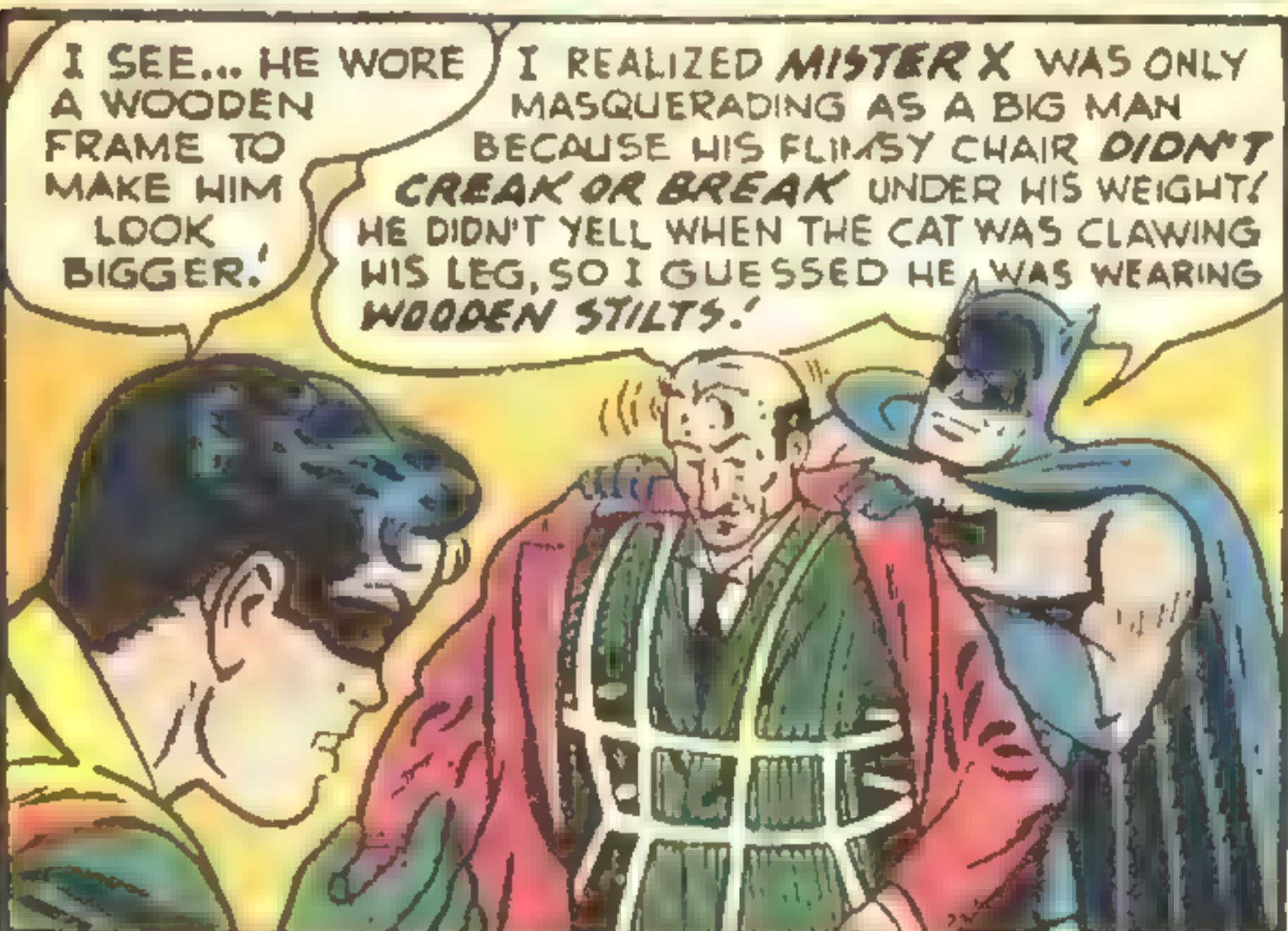
DIPPER HAS DROPPED! BATMAN--THERE GOES MISTER X! HE'S GETTING AWAY!



BUT AS THE MASKED GANG CHIEF PASSES THE CATWOMAN...

THANKS FOR THE HAND, CATWOMAN! AHH--I HAD A HUNCH MISTER X WAS A SHORT MAN!

SHORT MAN?! WHY, MISTER X IS MOUSEY!!



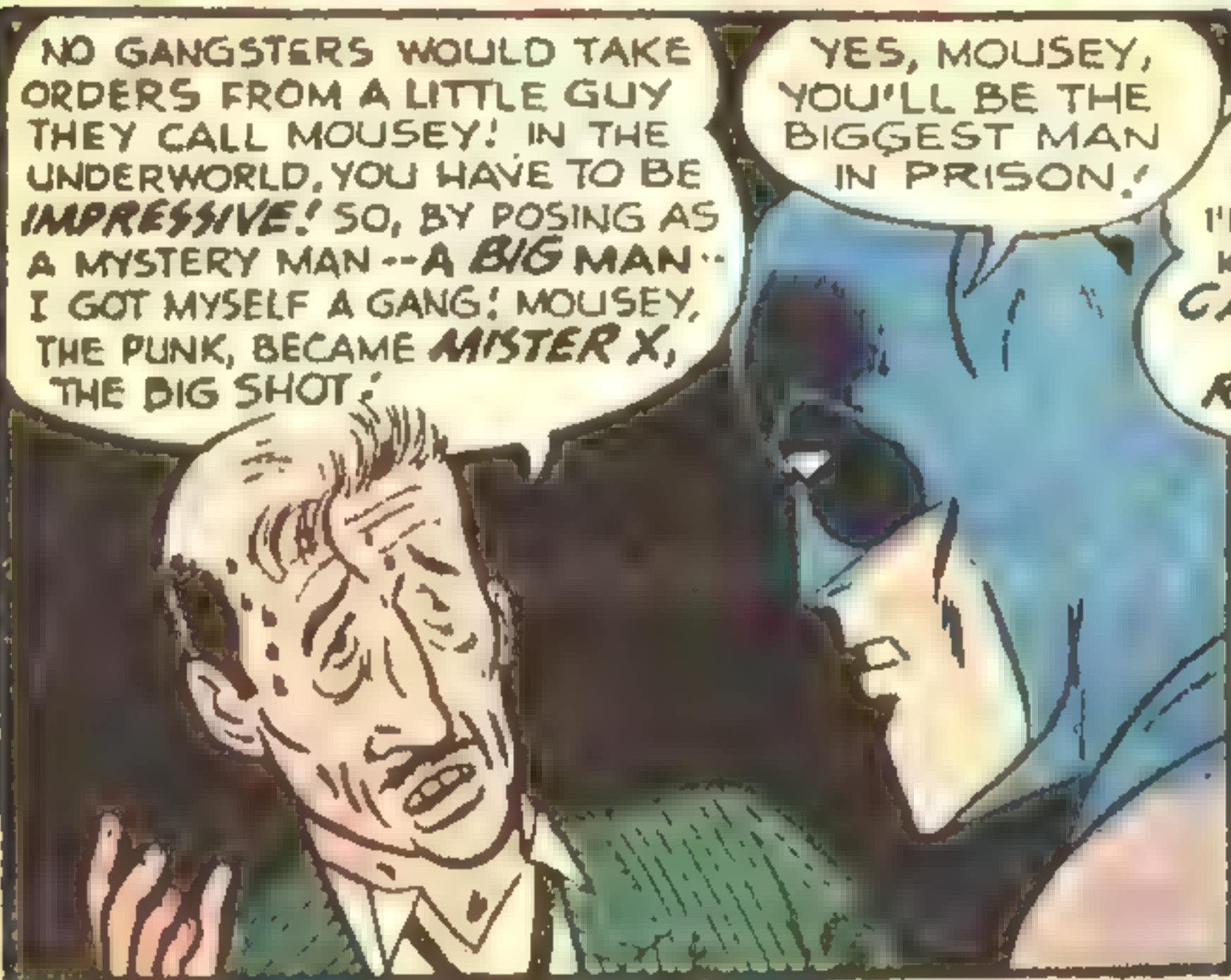
I SEE... HE WORE A WOODEN FRAME TO MAKE HIM LOOK BIGGER!

I REALIZED MISTER X WAS ONLY MASQUERADING AS A BIG MAN BECAUSE HIS FLIMSY CHAIR DIDN'T CREAK OR BREAK UNDER HIS WEIGHT! HE DIDN'T YELL WHEN THE CAT WAS CLAWING HIS LEG, SO I GUESSED HE WAS WEARING WOODEN STILTS!



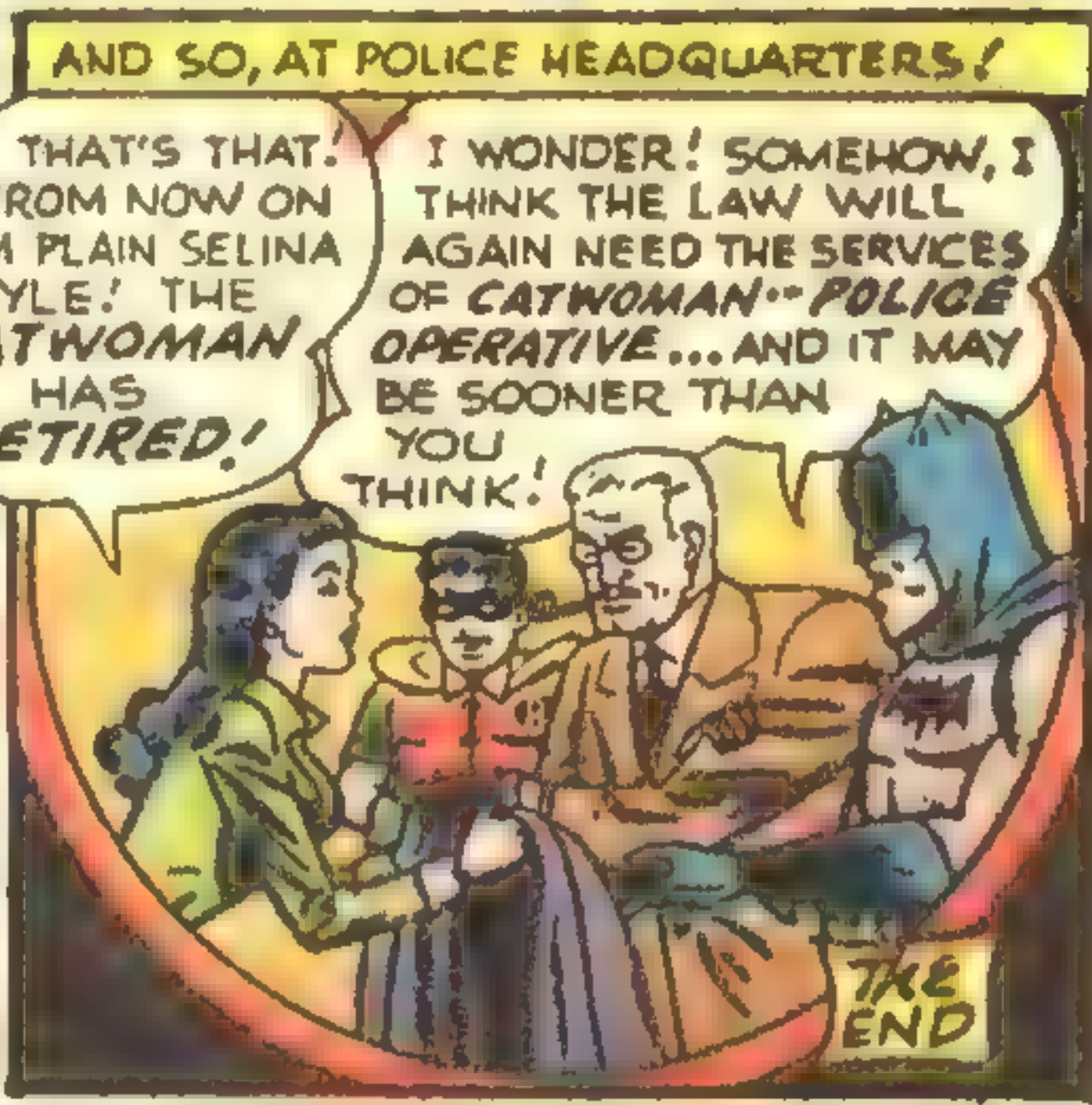
LATER, MOUSEY EXPLAINS THE REASON FOR HIS DISGUISE...

FIRST, IT WAS A GOOD COVERUP! THE COPS WOULD BE HUNTING FOR MISTER X, NOT A PUNK NAMED MOUSEY! YEAH... MY NAME... MOUSEY... THAT WAS THE REAL REASON FOR EVERYTHING...



NO GANGSTERS WOULD TAKE ORDERS FROM A LITTLE GUY THEY CALL MOUSEY! IN THE UNDERWORLD, YOU HAVE TO BE IMPRESSIVE! SO, BY POSING AS A MYSTERY MAN--A BIG MAN--I GOT MYSELF A GANG! MOUSEY, THE PUNK, BECAME MISTER X, THE BIG SHOT!

YES, MOUSEY, YOU'LL BE THE BIGGEST MAN IN PRISON!



AND SO, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS!

THAT'S THAT! FROM NOW ON I'M PLAIN SELINA KYLE! THE CATWOMAN HAS RETIRED!

I WONDER! SOMEHOW, I THINK THE LAW WILL AGAIN NEED THE SERVICES OF CATWOMAN--POLICE OPERATIVE...AND IT MAY BE SOONER THAN YOU THINK!

THE END

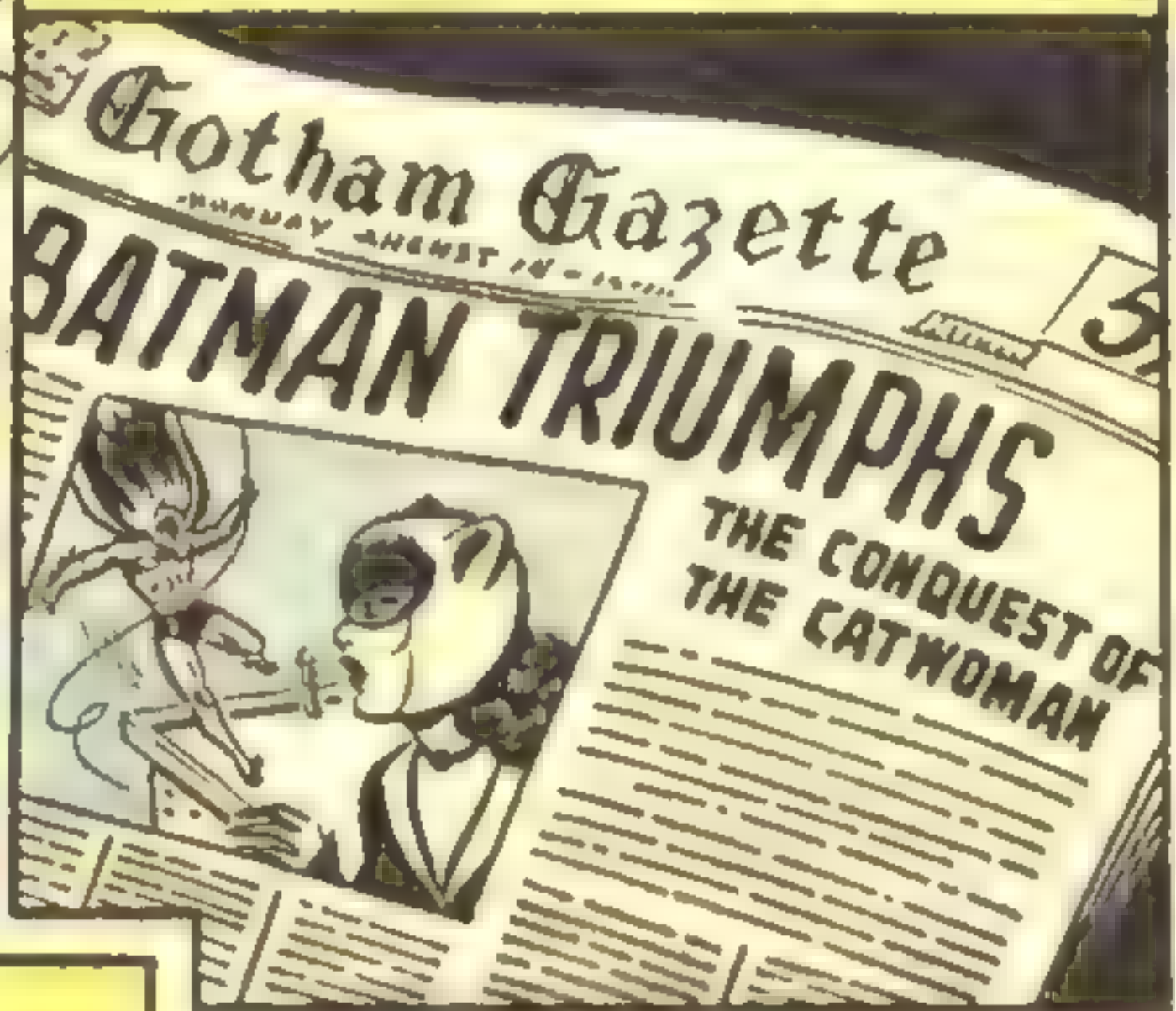
IN THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF THE "GOTHAM GAZETTE"...

CHIEF, THERE JUST ISN'T ANY BIG STORY RIGHT NOW! **BATMAN AND ROBIN** HAVE CLEANED UP CRIME SO WELL THERE ARE NO SENSATIONS!

HM, I'VE GOT IT... WE'LL RUN A FEATURE SERIES ON **BATMAN'S** GREATEST CASES! IT'LL BE A NATURAL!



THE EDITOR'S INSPIRATION IS TO HAVE FAR-REACHING, OMINOUS RESULTS! FOR, AS THE GREAT FEATS OF **BATMAN AND ROBIN** ARE RETOLD...



... THE FIRST OF THE FEATURES HAS A STRANGE EFFECT ON THE GIRL PROPRIETOR OF A SMALL PET-SHOP!

SO **BATMAN** IS NOW BOASTING OF HOW HE CONQUERED ME! WHEN I WAS THE **CATWOMAN**, BEFORE I REFORMED, HE HAD LITTLE TO BOAST OF! I OUTWITTED HIM OFTEN, EVEN THOUGH HE FINALLY CAPTURED ME!

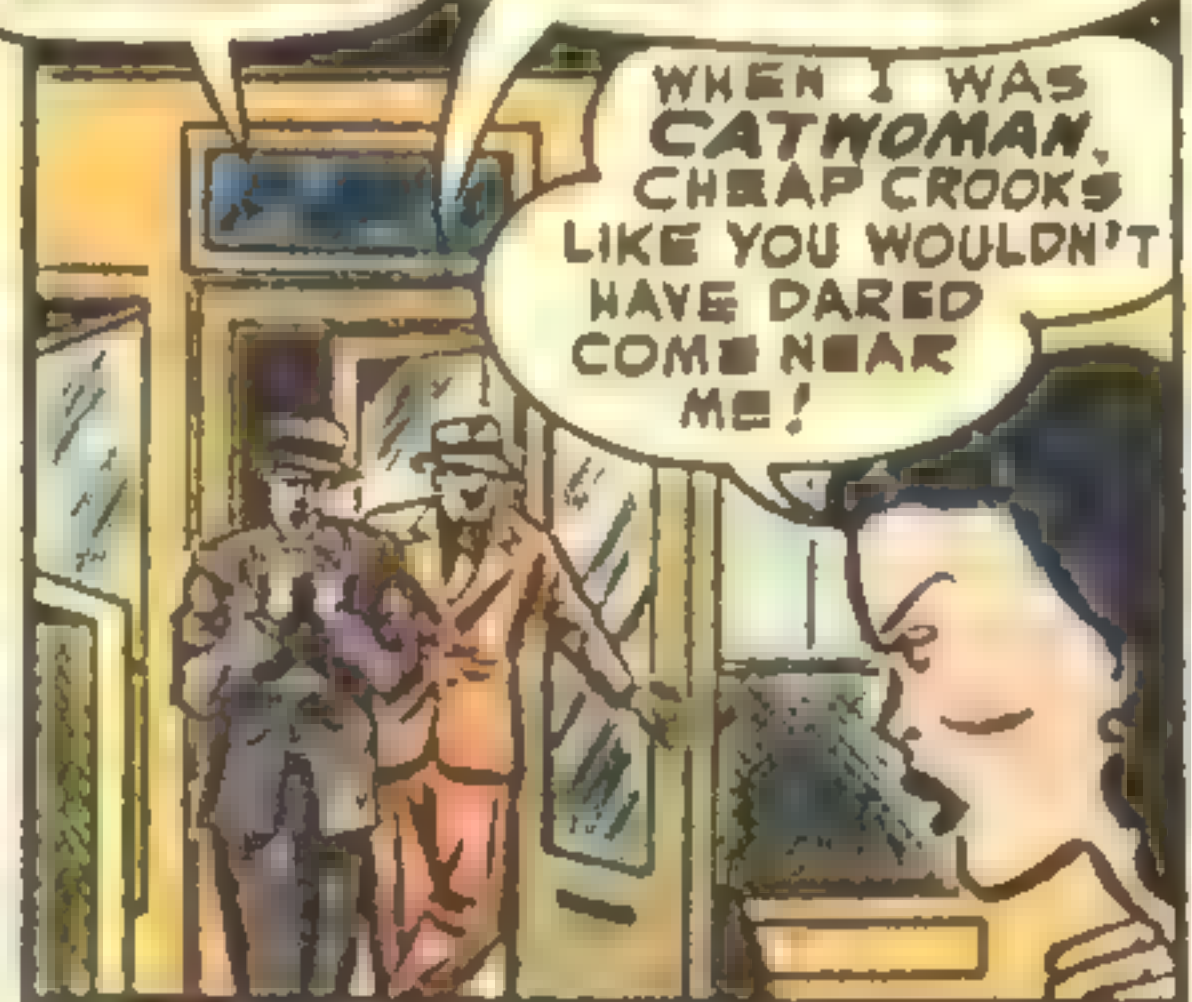


YES, SELINA KYLE, GIRL SHOP-KEEPER, WAS ONCE THE DREADED **CATWOMAN**! AND THERE ARE THOSE IN THE UNDERWORLD WHO REMEMBER THAT, AND TAUNT HER!

HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR PUBLICITY, **CATWOMAN**?

HA, HA! DON'T CALL HER THAT--- SHE'S REFORMED, SINCE **BATMAN** NIPPED HER CLAWS!

WHEN I WAS **CATWOMAN**, CHEAP CROOKS LIKE YOU WOULDN'T HAVE DARED COME NEAR ME!



AW, YOU AIN'T SO MUCH ANY MORE! YOU CALL ME NAMES AND I'LL---

YOU'LL WHAT?

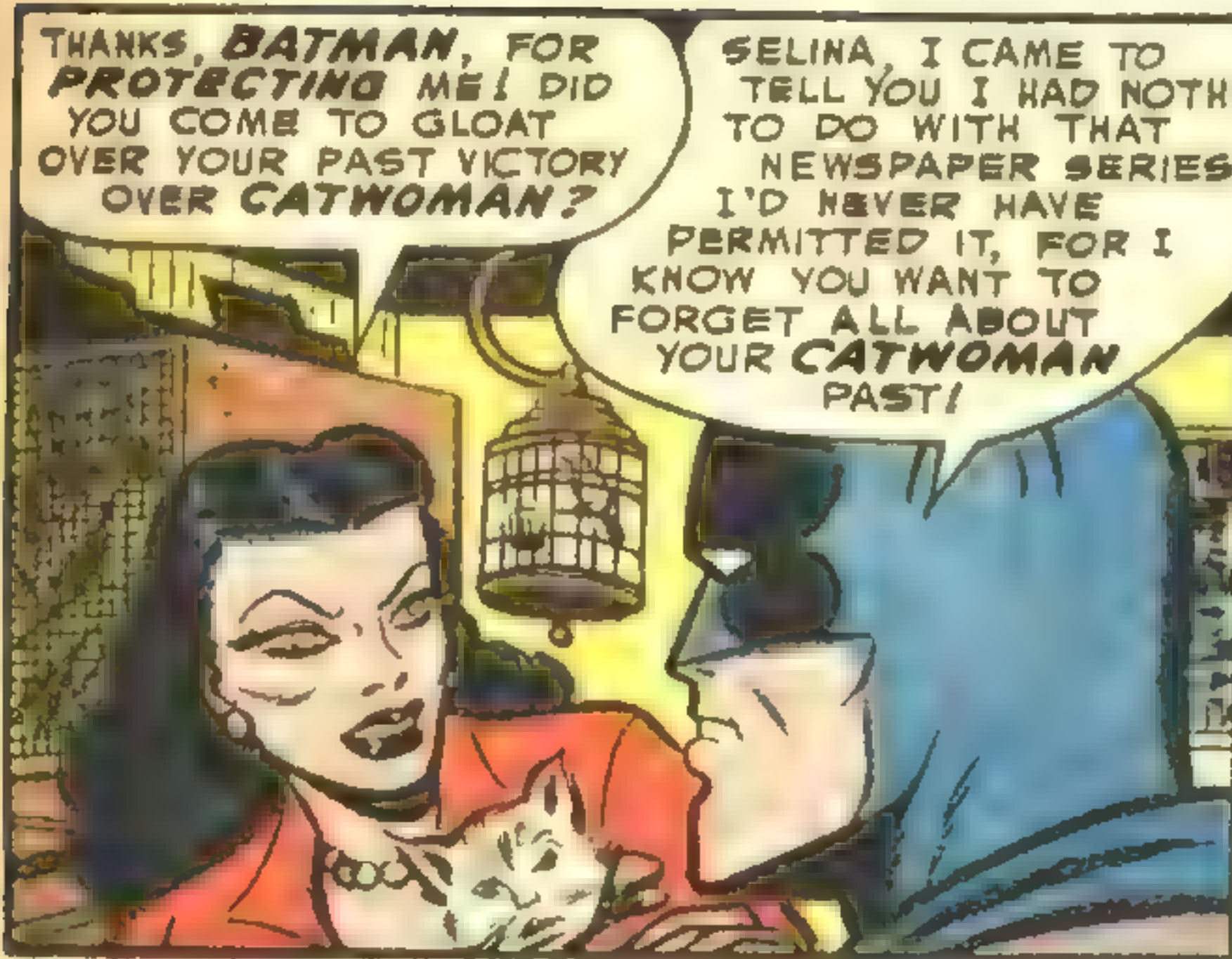


**BATMAN!** I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING--- I WAS JUST RIBBING HER---

I HEARD YOU! GET OUT, AND DON'T LET ME CATCH YOU HERE AGAIN!

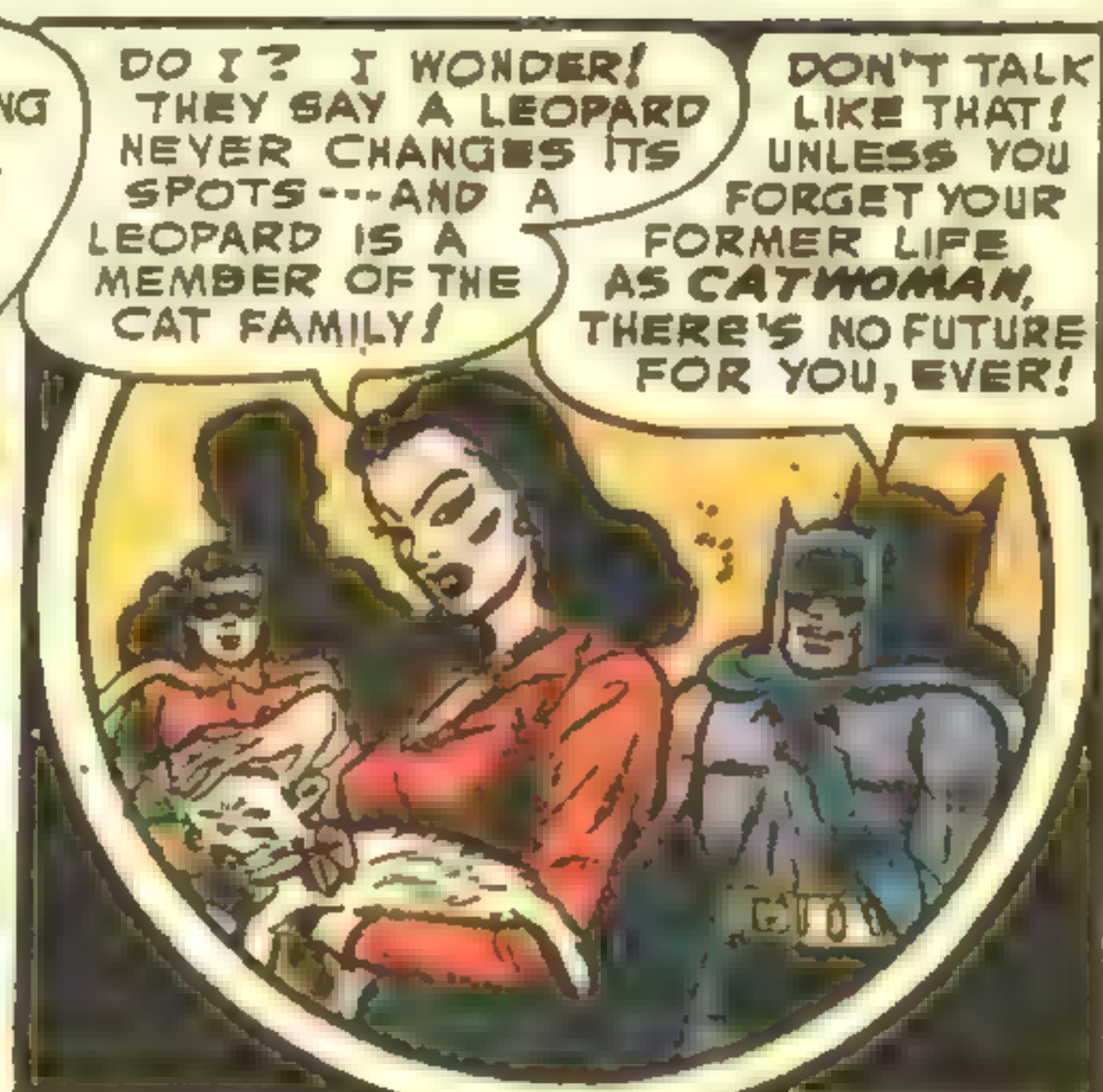
WE'RE GOING, **BATMAN!** WE WON'T BE BACK!





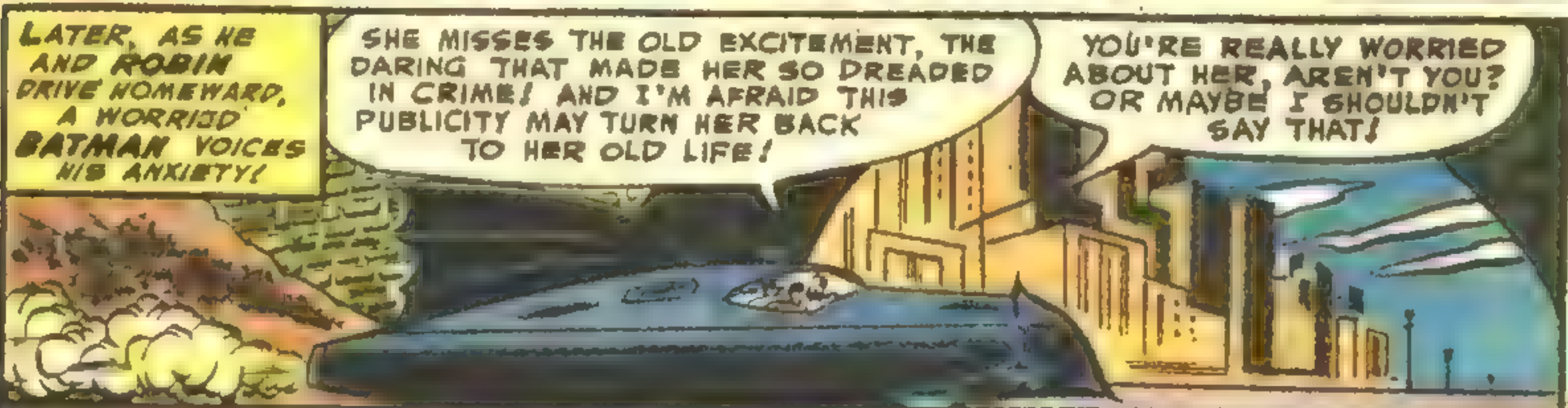
THANKS, **BATMAN**, FOR **PROTECTING** ME! DID YOU COME TO GLOAT OVER YOUR PAST VICTORY OVER **CATWOMAN**?

SELINA, I CAME TO TELL YOU I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT NEWSPAPER SERIES! I'D NEVER HAVE PERMITTED IT, FOR I KNOW YOU WANT TO FORGET ALL ABOUT YOUR **CATWOMAN** PAST!



DO I? I WONDER! THEY SAY A LEOPARD NEVER CHANGES ITS SPOTS---AND A LEOPARD IS A MEMBER OF THE CAT FAMILY!

DON'T TALK LIKE THAT! UNLESS YOU FORGET YOUR FORMER LIFE AS **CATWOMAN**, THERE'S NO FUTURE FOR YOU, EVER!



LATER, AS HE AND ROBIN DRIVE HOMEWARD, A WORRIED **BATMAN** VOICES HIS ANXIETY!

SHE MISSES THE OLD EXCITEMENT, THE DARING THAT MADE HER SO DREADED IN CRIME! AND I'M AFRAID THIS PUBLICITY MAY TURN HER BACK TO HER OLD LIFE!

YOU'RE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT HER, AREN'T YOU? OR MAYBE I SHOULDN'T SAY THAT!

INDEED, THE EX-CATWOMAN'S LONG-SMOLDERING EMOTIONS FINALLY BURST INTO FATEFUL ACTION!



NO ONE LAUGHED AT ME WHEN I WORE **THIS**! AND I'LL WEAR IT AGAIN! I'LL STUN GOTHAM CITY WITH SUCH CAT-CRIMES THAT THEY'LL NEVER RIDICULE **CATWOMAN** AGAIN!

YES, THE DREAD PRINCESS OF PLUNDER IS REBORN AGAIN! AND SOON, HIGH IN THE WINDY NIGHT ON AN AERIAL BEACON...



MY LITTLE PET WILL GIVE ALL GOTHAM CITY A WARNING THAT **CATWOMAN** IS BACK!

THE FEARSOME SIGN STRIKES AWE OVER THE GREAT METROPOLIS...



LOOK, A GIANT CAT---MENACING THE CITY!

IT'S A SILHOUETTE PROJECTED ON THE CLOUDS--- BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



"MEANTIME, BRUCE AND JULIE HAD BROKEN UP... AND HE'D FOUND ANOTHER GIRL... \*"

\*AS TOLD IN *BATMAN* NO.5.

LINDA PAGE! I HAVEN'T SEE YOU IN A DOG'S AGE! THE WHOLE CROWD HAS BEEN ASKING ABOUT YOU!

TELL THE CROWD I WOKE UP ONE DAY TO REALIZE THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS THAN CAFE SOCIETY... SO-O-O... I'VE MOVED OUT AND BECOME A NURSE!



"THAT NIGHT, TWO GUNMEN INVADED LINDA'S APARTMENT."

WE GOT A PATIENT FOR YA! C'MON!

HEY... WHATCHA DOIN'?

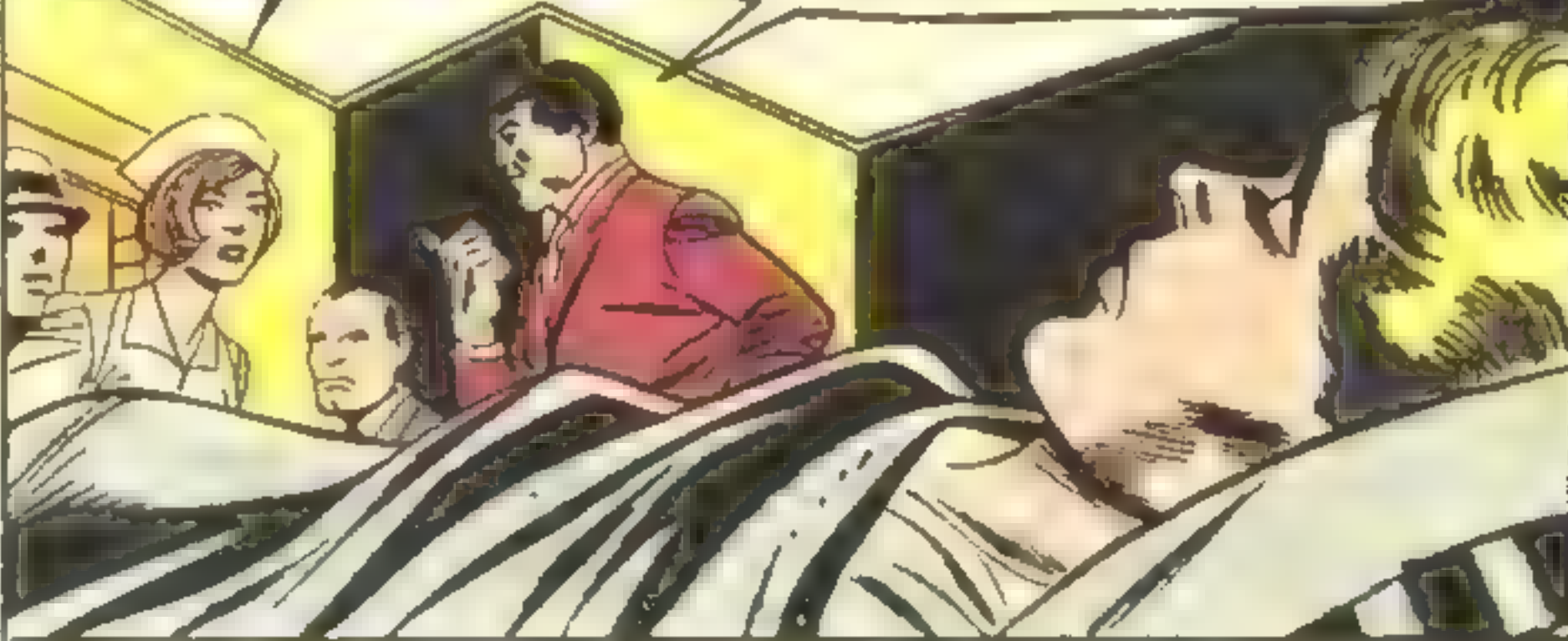
YOU CAN'T EXPECT ME TO GO OUT WITHOUT PUTTING ON FRESH LIPSTICK!



"LINDA WAS TAKEN BLINDFOLDED TO A HIDEOUT, WHERE..."

MIKE GROGAN... AND YOUR BROTHER, TOMMY! HE'S BEEN WOUNDED!

HE KEPT HANGIN' AROUND WITH OUR GANG... CAME ALONG ON A BANK JOB... AND CAUGHT A SLUG! YOU'RE GONNA TAKE IT OUT!



\*SUSPECTING THAT THE GROGANS MIGHT BE MIXED UP IN THE BANK HOLD-UP, *BATMAN* PAID A VISIT TO LINDA'S PLACE, SINCE SHE KNEW THE FAMILY... BUT HE FOUND...

TWO GUNMAN HAVE KIDNAPPED ME

A MESSAGE IN LIPSTICK... WRITTEN HURRIEDLY ON THE DRESSER...



\*IN DISGUISE, *BATMAN* INQUIRED ABOUT MIKE. THEN HE AND *ROBIN* HID TO WATCH THE REACTION...

UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN, THAT THUG WILL LEAD US TO GROGAN'S HIDEOUT!



"HEARING THAT SOMEONE... APPARENTLY A DETECTIVE ... WAS LOOKING FOR MIKE, THE GANG PREPARED TO PULL UP STAKES, BUT..."



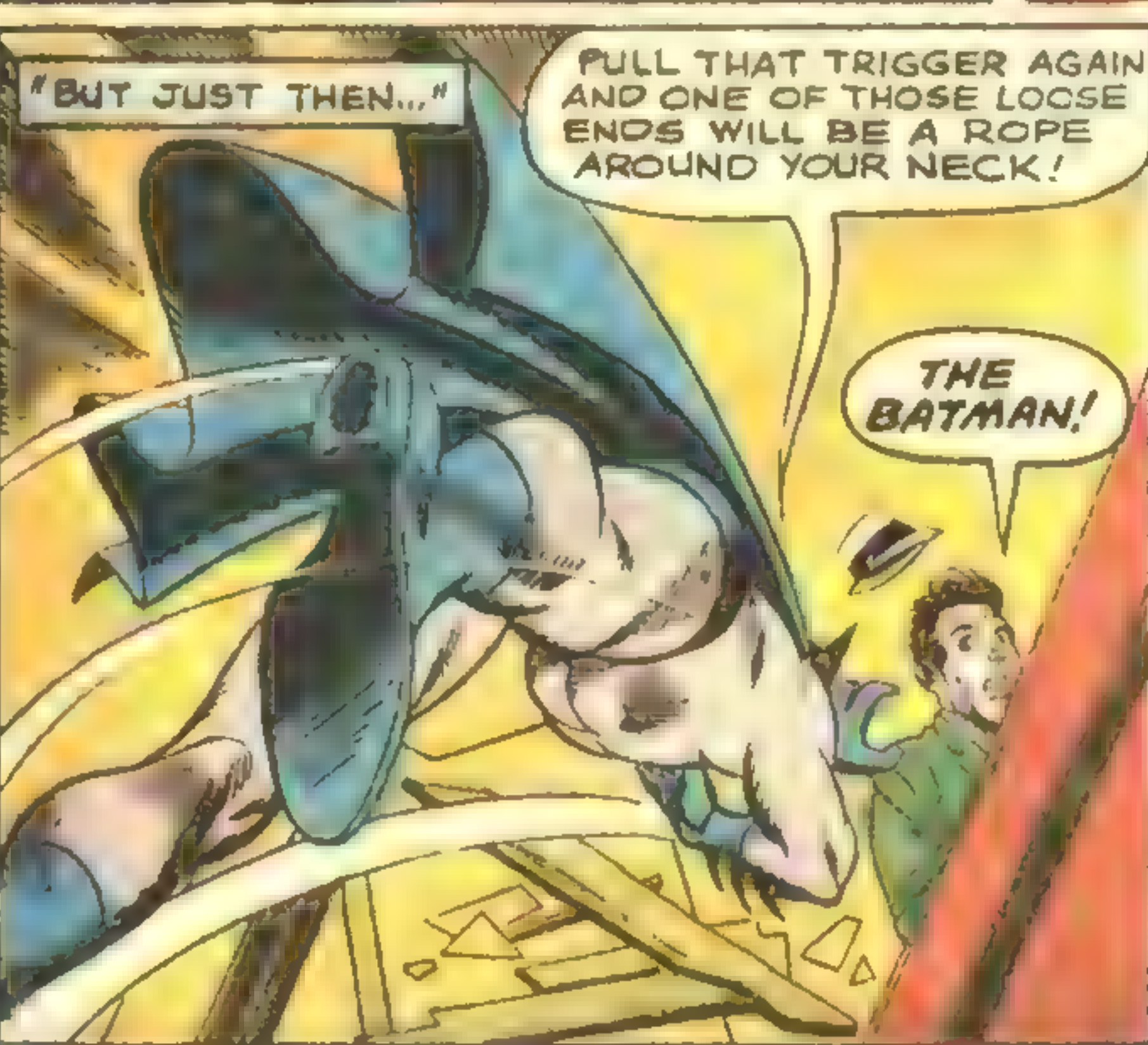
TOMMY CAN'T BE MOVED! IT MIGHT BE FATAL!

THAT MEANS I STAY! YOU GUYS CAN GO!

WHAT? AND LEAVE YOU BEHIND TO SPILL EVERYTHING TO THE COPS?



NEXT, I'LL LET THE GIRL AND THE KID HAVE IT, TOO! THAT'LL TAKE CARE OF ALL THE LOOSE ENDS!



"BUT JUST THEN..."

PULL THAT TRIGGER AGAIN AND ONE OF THOSE LOOSE ENDS WILL BE A ROPE AROUND YOUR NECK!

THE BATMAN!

"YET THE CROOKS HAD **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** OUTNUMBERED.. AND MIGHT HAVE WON, IF TOMMY HADN'T GRABBED A GUN, CRAWLED OUTSIDE, AND..."



BANG!

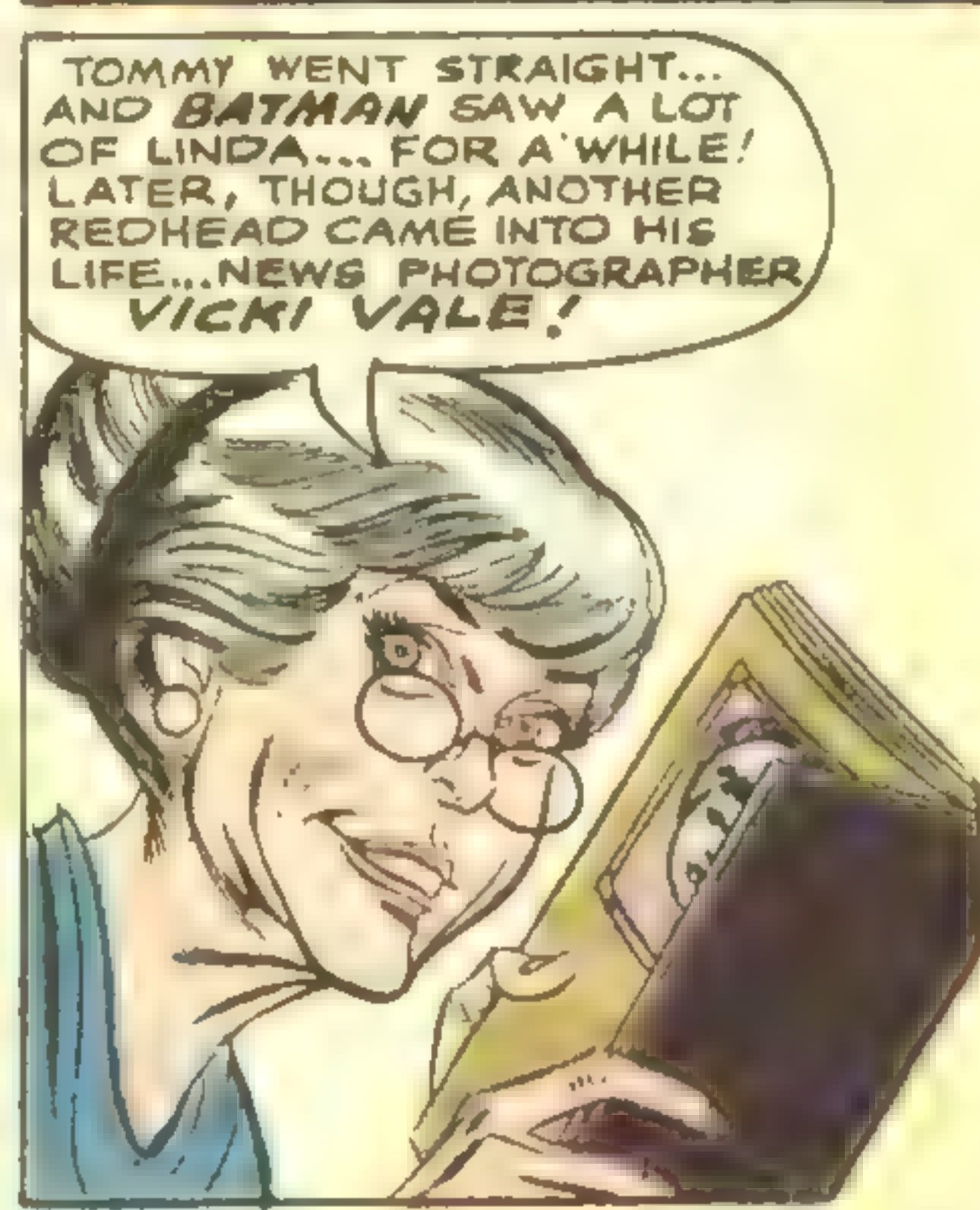
THIS SHOULD BRING THE POLICE!



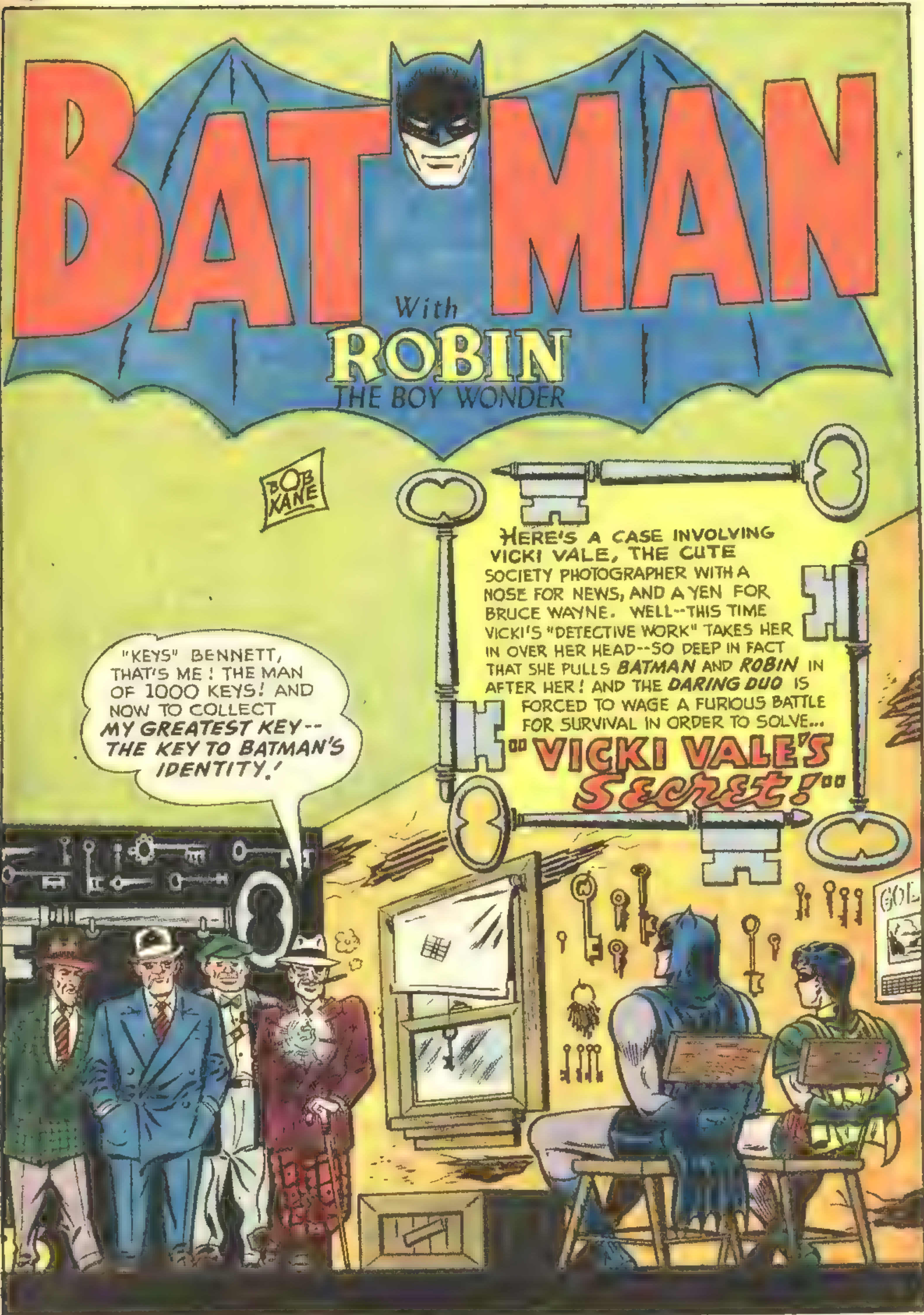
"IT DID... AND AS MIKE LAY DYING..."

TOMMY DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE HOLDUP! HE'S A GOOD KID!

I GUESS HE IS. HE CALLED US HERE.



TOMMY WENT STRAIGHT... AND **BATMAN** SAW A LOT OF LINDA... FOR A WHILE! LATER, THOUGH, ANOTHER REDHEAD CAME INTO HIS LIFE... NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER **VICKI VALE**!





GIANT BATMAN



ONE WARM EVENING, AS PROMINENT SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, RECEIVE AN UNEXPECTED GUEST...

VICKI VALE! WHAT'S THE TOWN'S PRETTIEST PHOTOGRAPHER UP TO NOW?

WAIT, DICK! SOMETHING'S WRONG! WHAT IS IT, VICKI?

MY LIFE'S BEEN THREATENED! I (SOB) WAS NEARLY KILLED! I'VE PUT MYSELF IN (SOB) TERRIBLE DANGER!

YOUR LIFE'S BEEN THREATENED? BUT WHO-- WHY?

I CAN'T TELL YOU! I'M **SCARED**, BRUCE! YOU HAVE TO **HELP** ME! DON'T ASK QUESTIONS! PLEASE-- LET ME HIDE HERE FOR A WHILE-- TILL I COLLECT MY WITS!

MOMENTS LATER, AS ALFRED, BRUCE'S BUTLER, BRINGS VICKI SOME WATER...

POOR KID! SHE'S IN A STATE OF COLLAPSE! WE'LL PUT HER UP IN THE GUEST ROOM--AND THEN WE'LL TRY TO GET TO THE **BOTTOM** OF THIS!

RIGHT!

AND WHEN VICKI HAS RETIRED TO AN UPSTAIRS ROOM, BRUCE AND DICK RACE THROUGH SECRET PASSAGEWAYS TO--THE **BAT-CAVE**!

I WONDER WHAT VICKI WOULD SAY IF SHE KNEW HOW CLOSE SHE WAS TO **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** TONIGHT?

NEVER MIND THAT! IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT OUR WORK CUT OUT FOR US! AND REMEMBER--BE ALERT, DICK! VIGILANCE PAYS OFF!

WE'LL TRY VICKI'S APARTMENT FIRST! THERE MAY BE SOME CLUES TO THIS MYSTERY THERE!

I HOPE SO! IT'S TOO HOT A NIGHT FOR A WILD GOOSE CHASE!

**R-R-RROAR!**

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, AS THE **DARING DUO** ENTERS VICKI'S APARTMENT...

WHEW! IT SURE IS HOT! THIS FAN WILL HELP COOL THINGS SOMEWHAT. NOW--LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN FIND!

WHIRRRR

CLICK

AND, AS A DETERMINED SEARCH GETS UNDER WAY...

I CAN'T GET OVER THE WAY VICKI LOOKED TONIGHT! SHE REALLY WAS TERRIFIED!

SHE MAY HAVE STUMBLERD ON SOMETHING REAL HOT IN HER WORK! REMEMBER --SHE TOLD US, "I'VE **PUT MYSELF** IN TERRIBLE DANGER!" LOOK FOR NEWLY-DEVELOPED PHOTOGRAPHS, **ROBIN!**

THEN...

**BATMAN! LOOK!** A PHOTOGRAPH-- FOLDED UP IN **TODAY'S PAPER!**

LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT IT-- QUICK!

WHY, IT'S THE OLD **BIJOU THEATER**, **BATMAN!** IT'S BEEN CLOSED FOR YEARS! VICKI MUST HAVE BEEN SHOOTING SOME OF OUR LANDMARKS!

**ROBIN!** THAT MAN, WEARING **KNICKERS!** THAT'S A TRADE-MARK OF "**KEYS**" **BENNETT**-- THE GANGSTER WANTED BY THE POLICE! AND HE **LOOKS** LIKE **BENNETT**, TOO!

BIJOU THEATER

FOR RENT

CLOSED

BUT IF IT IS **BENNETT**, WHY WOULD HE BE SNEAKING INTO AN **EMPTY** THEATER?

IT COULD BE HIS HIDEOUT! THE POLICE NEVER **DID** FIND IT! COME ON--WE'LL TAKE A LOOK!

IT ALL FITS! **BENNETT** MUST HAVE SPOTTED VICKI SNAPPING THE PICTURE--AND THREATENED HER LIFE IF SHE REVEALED IT!

YES! AND WE'VE GOT TO BRING IN THAT CHARACTER BEFORE HE MAKES HIS THREAT COME TRUE!

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, IN THE DARKNESS OF THE **BIJOU THEATER**...

(WHISPER) SEEMS EMPTY TO ME, **BATMAN**. DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THERE'S ANY HIDEOUT AROUND HERE!

(WHISPER) WAIT! THERE'S A LARGE DRESSING-ROOM AREA UNDER THE STAGE-- WE CAN REACH IT THROUGH STEPS THAT GO DOWN FROM THE ORCHESTRA PIT.



GIANT BATMAN



SUDDENLY, THE GREAT CURTAINS PART!

IT'S **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**! COME ON, MEN--HERE'S OUR CHANCE!

QUITE A STAGE SHOW, EH, **ROBIN**? AND TO THINK WE'VE GOT THE BEST SEATS IN THE HOUSE!

WHAT'S THE MATTER? LOSE YOUR BALANCE?

JUST CALL ME THE DARING YOUNG MAN ON THE FLYING TRAPEZE!

AND THEN A DRAMA UNFOLDS ON THE STAGE OF THE BUOU SUCH AS AUDIENCES IN THE PAST NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO SEE...

ALL AT ONCE...

**BATMAN**! ONE OF THEM IS CRAWLING AWAY THROUGH THE RAFTERS!

SO I SEE! I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM-- BUT FAST!

LIKE A COIL OF RAW STEEL, **BATMAN** HITS THE TRAMPOLINE--AND SPRINGS UP WITH THE SPEED OF A BULLET!

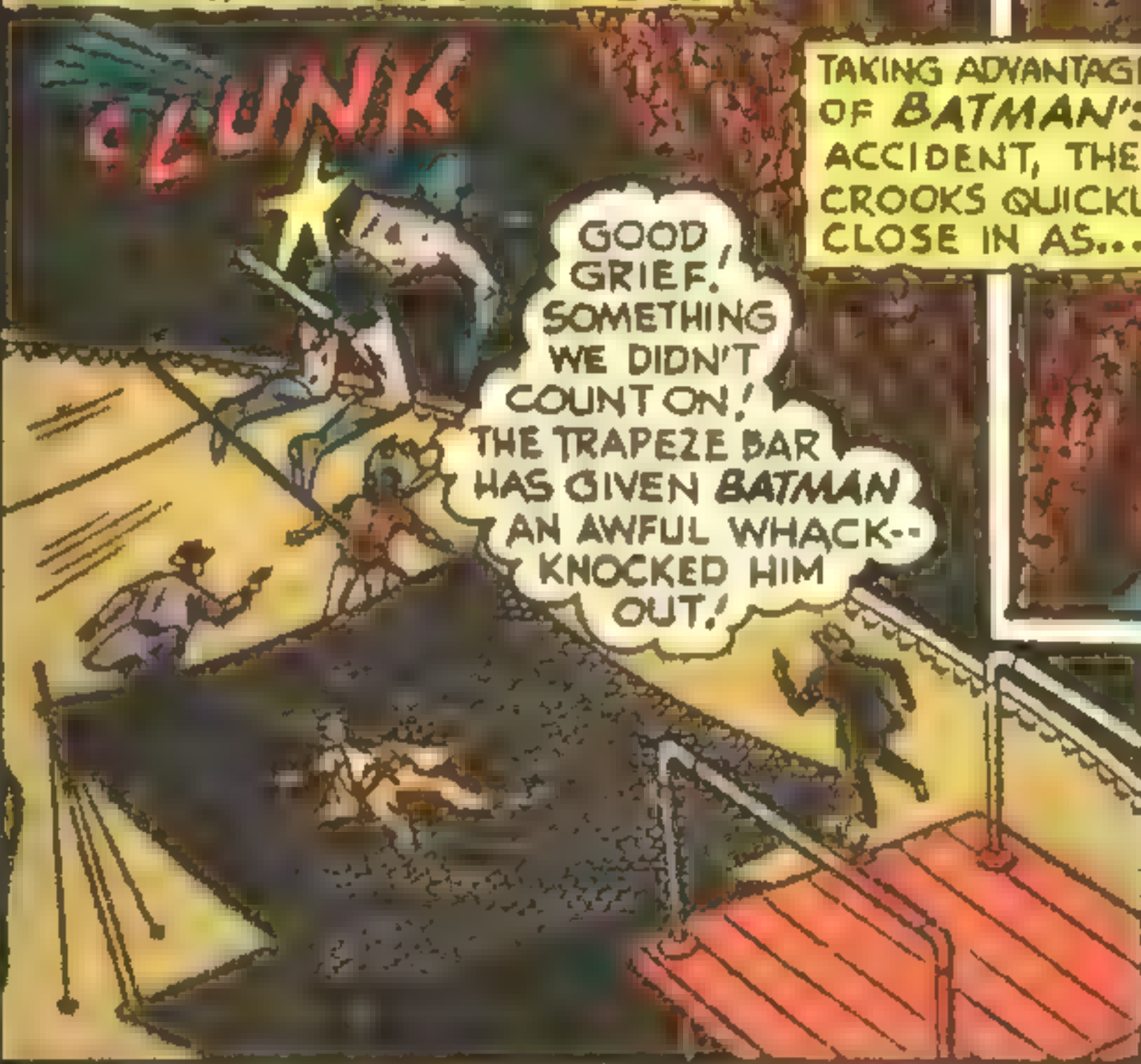
LEGGIO! LEGGO! OWWW!

DOWN YOU COME, MY FRIEND! GRAB HIM WHEN HE HITS THE NET, **ROBIN**!

SUDDENLY **BATMAN** SPRINGS OUT--FEET FIRST, HEADED FOR THE TRAMPOLINE!

THIS WILL REVERSE NEWTON'S THEORY! WHAT GOES DOWN MUST COME UP!

BUT THEN, SUDDEN DISASTER!



GOOD GRIEF! SOMETHING WE DIDN'T COUNT ON! THE TRAPEZE BAR HAS GIVEN BATMAN AN AWFUL WHACK--KNOCKED HIM OUT!

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF BATMAN'S ACCIDENT, THE CROOKS QUICKLY CLOSE IN AS...

THANK GOODNESS, HE'S COMING AROUND! THAT BLOW MIGHT HAVE KILLED ANOTHER MAN!

WHAT A BREAK! C'MON--WE KIN GRAB 'EM NOW!



HEY--LET'S TAKE OFF THEIR MASKS--SEE WHO THESE GUYS REALLY ARE!

ARE YOU CRAZY? KEYS WOULD KILL YA! HE WANTS THAT PLEASURE FER HIMSELF! WE'LL LOCK THESE BABIES AWAY--AND WAIT FOR THE BOSS TO RETURN!



AND AS BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE LED INTO KEYS BENNETT'S HIDEOUT BE- NEATH THE STAGE OF THE OLD BRUOU THEATER...

SO THIS IS BENNETT'S HIDE- OUT! EVER SINCE HE RECEIVED A SCAR ON HIS FACE IN THE SHAPE OF A KEY, HE'S CONSIDERED THE KEY HIS LUCKY SYMBOL, THAT ACCOUNTS FOR ALL THIS...

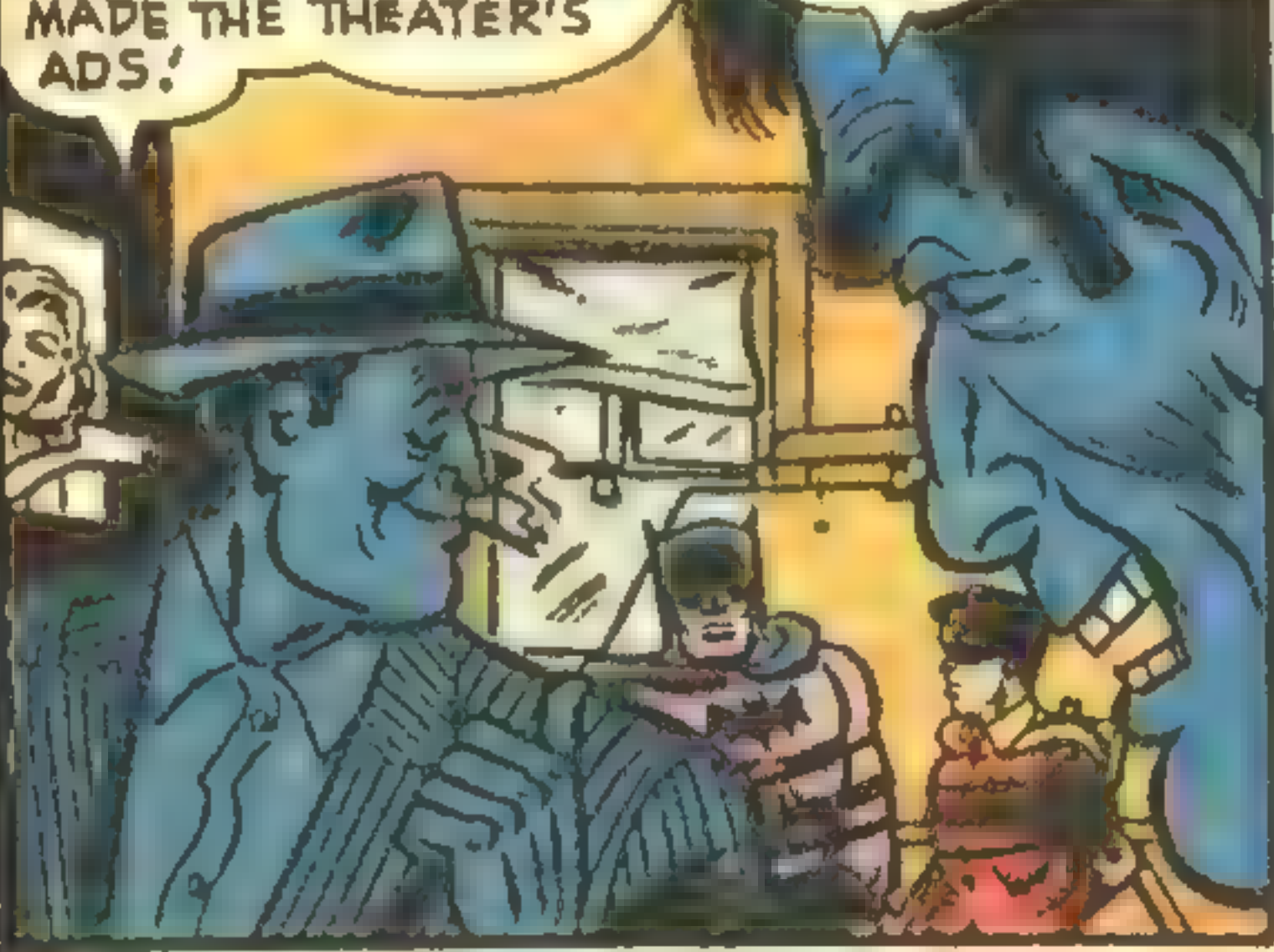
WE'LL JUST TAKE THOSE UTILITY BELTS IF YOU DON'T MIND! WE DON'T WANT NO FUNNY BUSINESS GOING ON!



SOON AFTER...

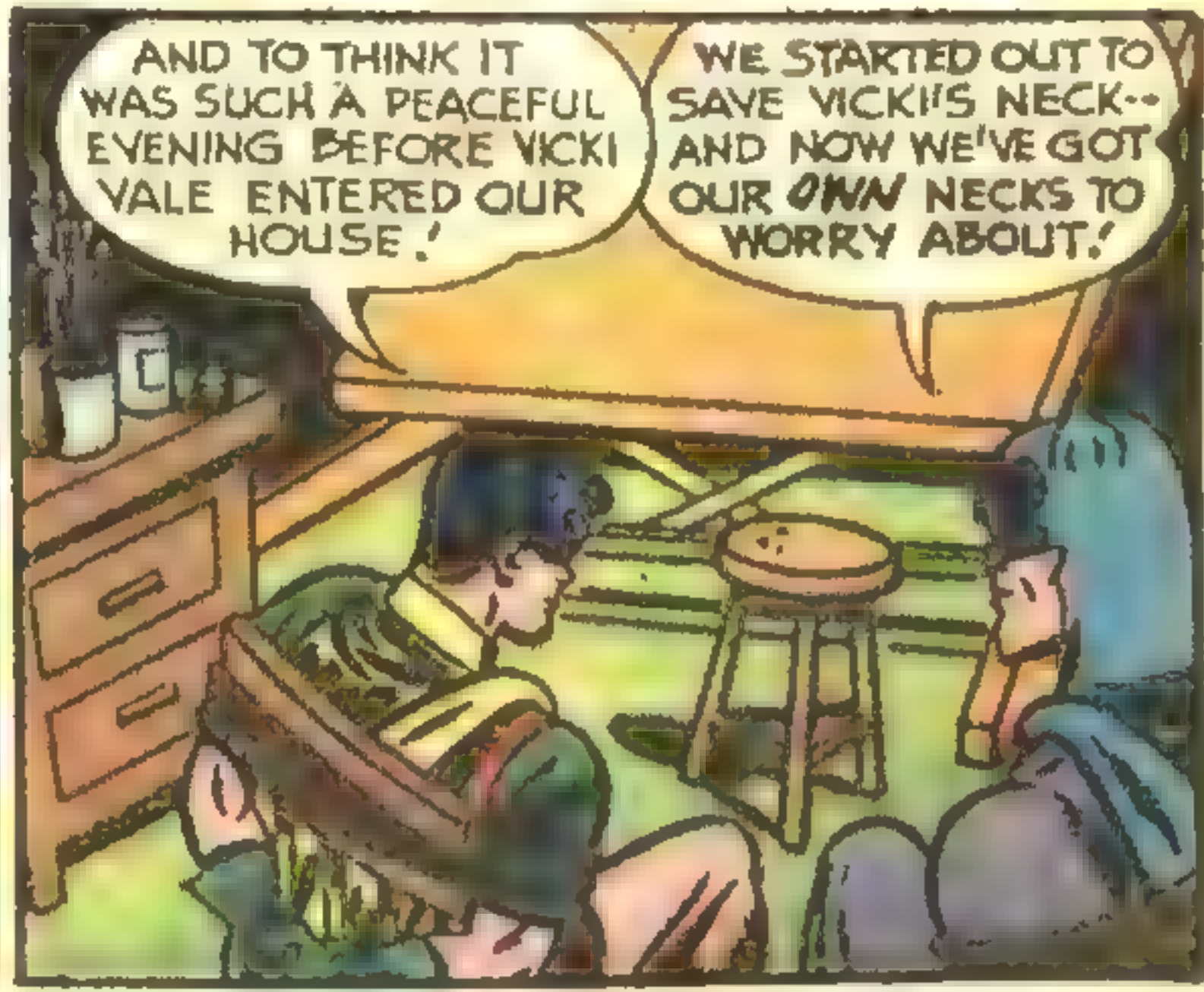
YOU'LL KEEP IN HERE, BATMAN! USED TO BE USED BY AN ARTIST WHO MADE THE THEATER'S ADS!

IF YOU GET BORED, YOU CAN TRY DRAWIN' SOME PICTURES-- WITH YOUR NOSE! HAW!



AND TO THINK IT WAS SUCH A PEACEFUL EVENING BEFORE VICKI VALE ENTERED OUR HOUSE!

WE STARTED OUT TO SAVE VICKI'S NECK-- AND NOW WE'VE GOT OUR OWN NECKS TO WORRY ABOUT!



AND WHAT OF VICKI? IF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** COULD ONLY SEE HER AT THAT MOMENT, THEY'D HAVE THE **SHOCK** OF THEIR LIVES!

TEE-HEE! OH, HOW THEY FELL FOR IT! MY LONG-LIVED SUSPICION THAT **BRUCE** IS **BATMAN** MAY WELL BE PROVEN **TONIGHT!** THEY WENT FOR MY BAIT LIKE TWO STARVED FISH! TEE-HEE!



I COULD HAVE GONE STRAIGHT TO THE POLICE WITH THAT SHOT OF BENNET--BUT THIS IS **MUCH MORE FUN**--AND WILL ACCOMPLISH THE SAME END!



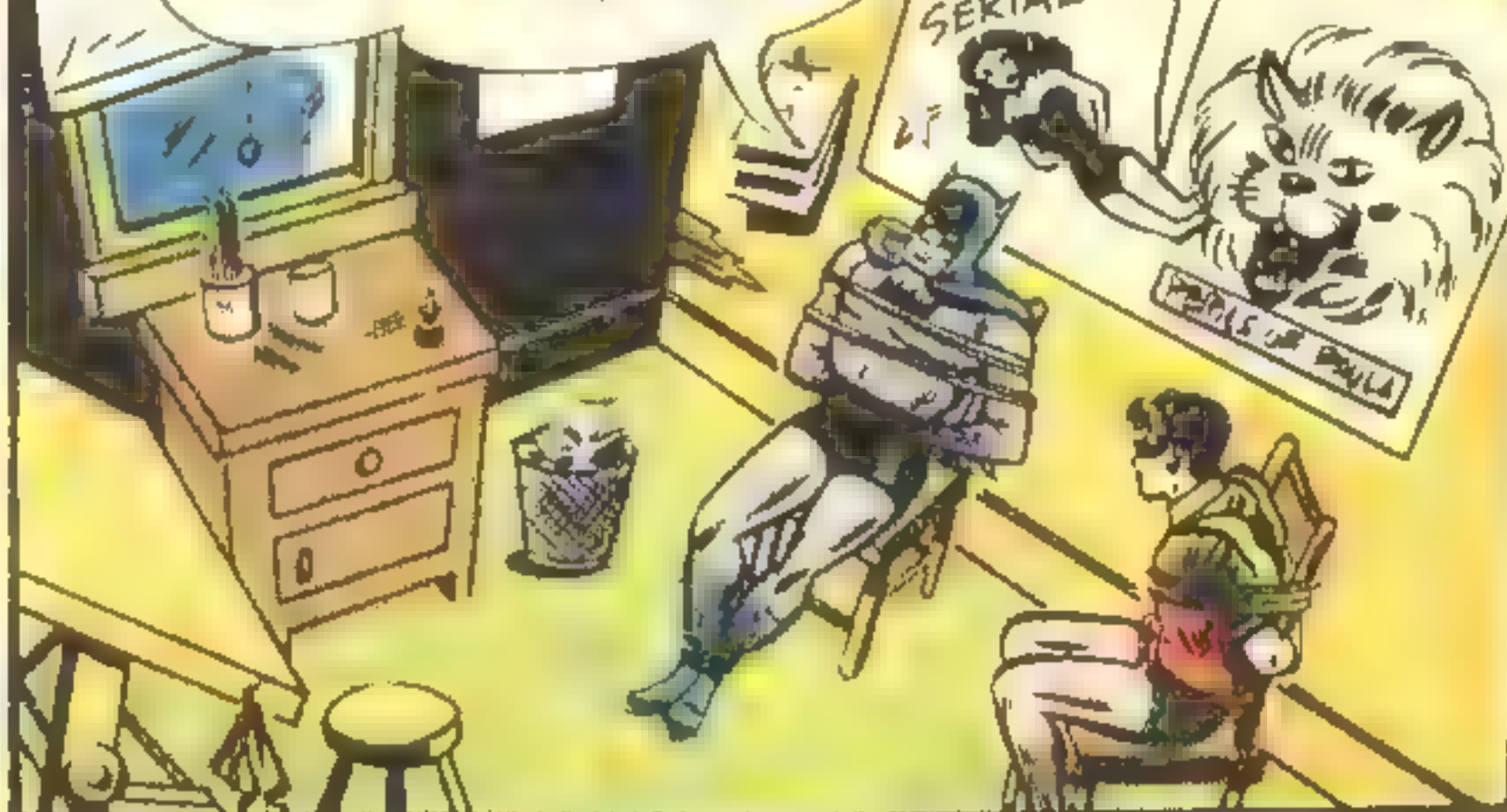
IF THEY WENT TO MY APARTMENT, AS I'M SURE THEY HAVE--AND MADE **ONE** SLIP, THEIR GOOSE IS COOKED! FOR THERE'S A NICE LITTLE HIDDEN **RECORDING MACHINE** PICKING UP EVERY WORD THEY SAY!



MEANWHILE, AT BENNETT'S HIDEOUT...

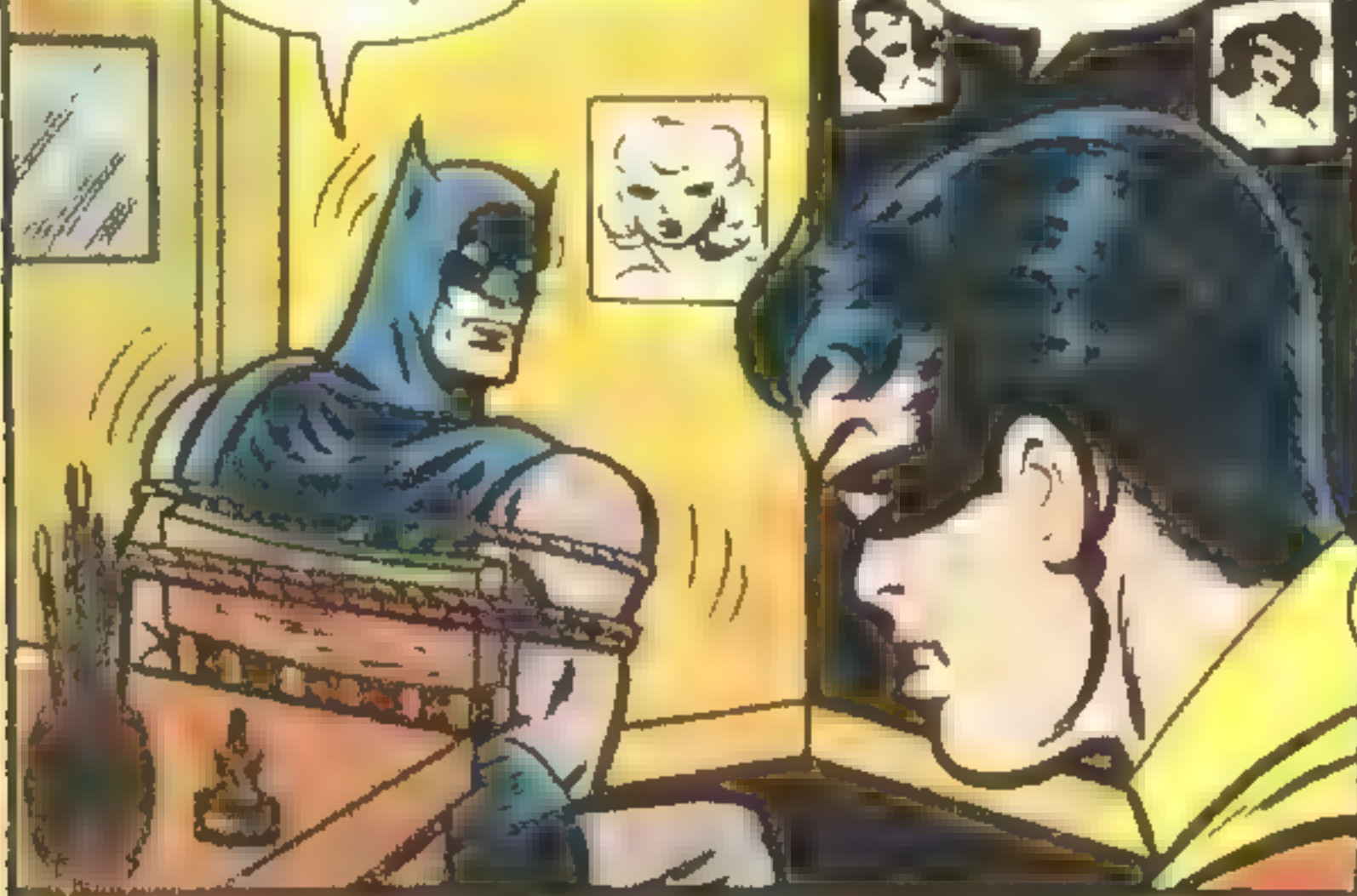
WE'VE GOT ONE CHANCE, **ROBIN**--IF THAT CABINET HASN'T BEEN CLEANED OF ALL THE EQUIPMENT A **LAYOUT ARTIST** USES!

WELL--WE CAN ROCK OURSELVES OVER THERE AND SEE!

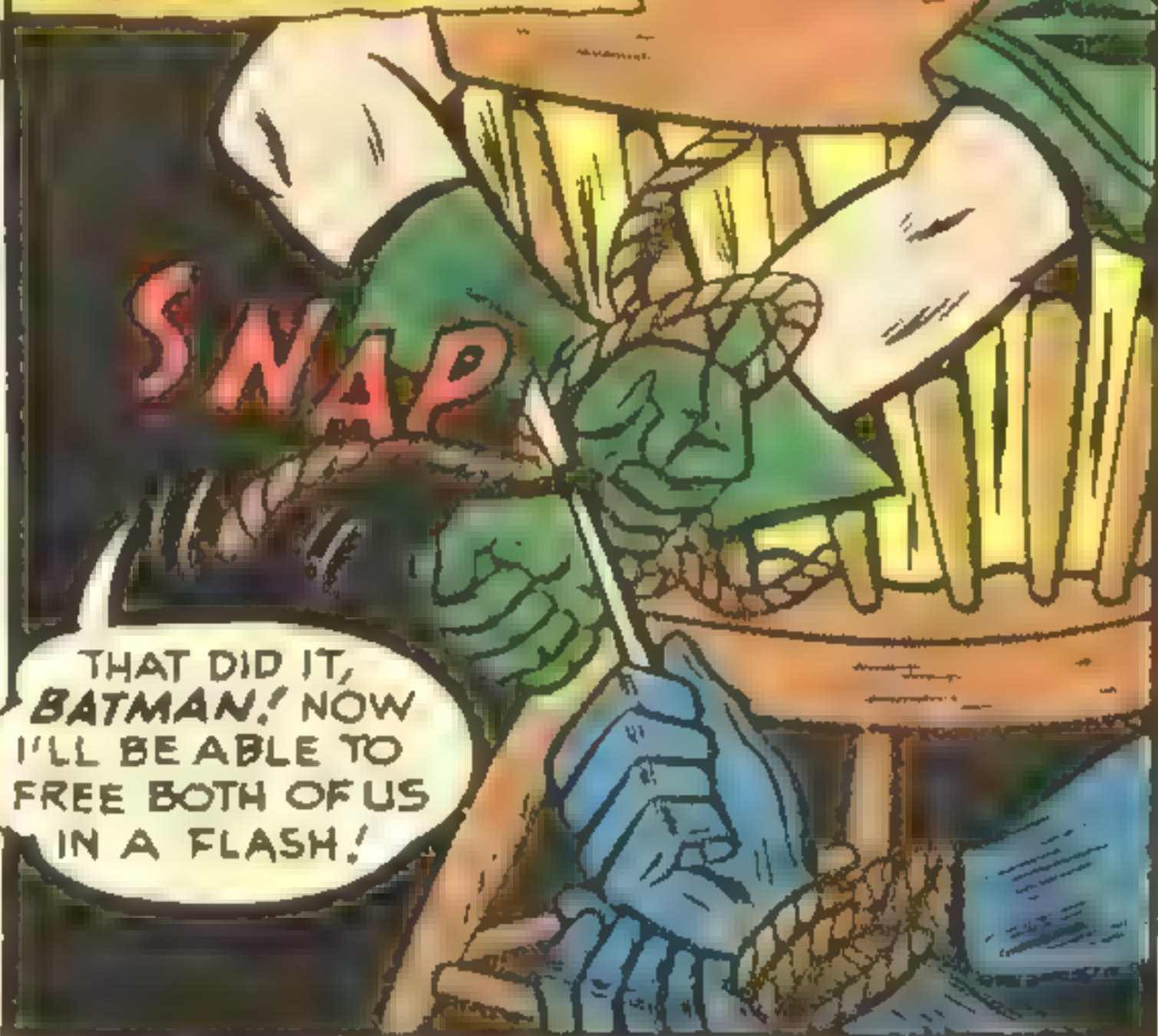


LUCK'S WITH US! JUST WHAT I HOPED FOR--A **STENCIL KNIFE**! NO **LAYOUT MAN'S KIT** IS COMPLETE WITHOUT ONE!

I'LL SWING AROUND, AND MOVE MY HANDS NEXT TO YOURS! YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SLICE THROUGH MY **BONDS!**



AND A MOMENT LATER...



THAT DID IT, **BATMAN!** NOW I'LL BE ABLE TO FREE BOTH OF US IN A FLASH!

SECONDS LATER...  
LISTEN! KEYS BENNETT HAS JUST RETURNED! WE FREED OURSELVES NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON!

ALL RIGHT! LET'S GO! WE'LL STUN THEM WITH THE SURPRISE OF OUR ATTACK!

BATMAN AND ROBIN! I THOUGHT YOU SAID THEY WERE LOCKED UP!

A SLIGHT ERROR ON THEIR PART, KEYS! IT'S YOU WHO'S GOING TO BE LOCKED UP--IN JAIL!

**CRASH!**

I GUESS YOU'D CALL THIS THE KEY TO OUR SUCCESS, BATMAN!

**CLOP**

CAN'T MOVE-- I'M PINNED!

YOU'RE MORE THAN THAT, BENNETT-- YOU'RE FINISHED!

YOU NEVER SHOULD HAVE PICKED ON VICKI VALE, KEYS! I DON'T LIKE THUGS WHO GO AFTER DEFENSELESS WOMEN!

VICKI VALE...!? WHY-- I DID NUTHIN' TO HER! I DON'T EVEN KNOW HER!

AND AS BATMAN AND ROBIN FEEL THE SINCERITY OF BENNETT'S WORDS...

WHY SHOULD I LIE, BATMAN? I NEVER SEEN THE DAME! ASK MY MEN! ASK ANYONE!

I KNOW WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND, ROBIN! SAVE IT TILL WE'RE ALONE!

A HALF-HOUR LATER, AFTER BENNETT AND HIS MEN HAVE BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE POLICE...

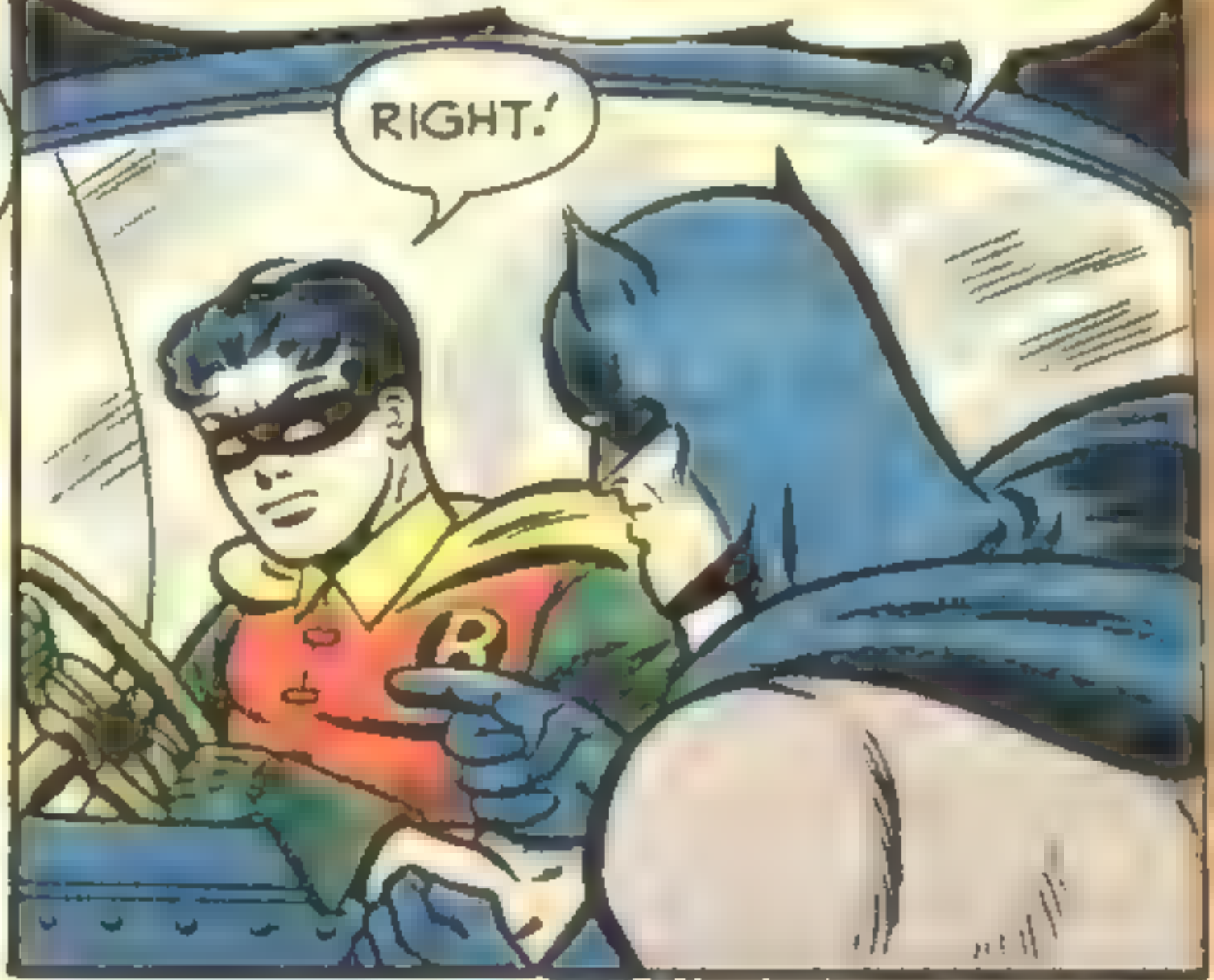
VICKI PULLED A FAST ONE, **BATMAN!** SHE'S ALWAYS HAD A NOTION THAT BRUCE WAYNE WAS **BATMAN**-- AND TONIGHT SHE CAUGHT US OFF-GUARD!

YES--SHE TRICKED US INTO GOING TO HER APARTMENT AND GETTING INVOLVED IN THIS CASE! WE'VE GOT SOME REAL THINKING TO DO, **ROBIN!**



YOU'D BETTER GET BACK TO THE HOUSE IMMEDIATELY! STALL VICKI--PLAY DUMB! I'LL JOIN YOU AS SOON AS I CAN!

RIGHT!



AND LATER, IN THE WAYNE MANSION...

WHY, VICKI-- I THOUGHT YOU WERE SLEEPING -- NOT FEELING WELL! WHAT HAPPENED?

DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE RADIO? **BATMAN** JUST CAPTURED KEYS BENNETT! OH, COME ON, BOYS -- THE JIG'S UP! ADMIT YOU'RE **BATMAN AND ROBIN!** AND CREDIT VICKI WITH A NEAT LITTLE **SCOOP!**



FOR INSTANCE, HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN YOUR ABSENCE TONIGHT, **WHILE BATMAN WAS NABBING BENNETT?** AND HOW DID **BATMAN** LEARN OF BENNETT'S HIDEOUT, IF NOT FROM **MY** PICTURE, LEFT IN **MY** APARTMENT?

BUT THAT'S SIMPLE, VICKI! AS SOON AS WE HEARD OF YOUR FLIGHT, WE HUNTED DOWN **BATMAN** AND TOLD HIM ALL ABOUT IT!



A GLIB ANSWER! UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T PROVE YOU'RE WRONG! HOWEVER--SUPPOSE YOU ACCOMPANY ME TO MY APARTMENT! I'D LIKE YOU TO LISTEN TO A **RECORD!**

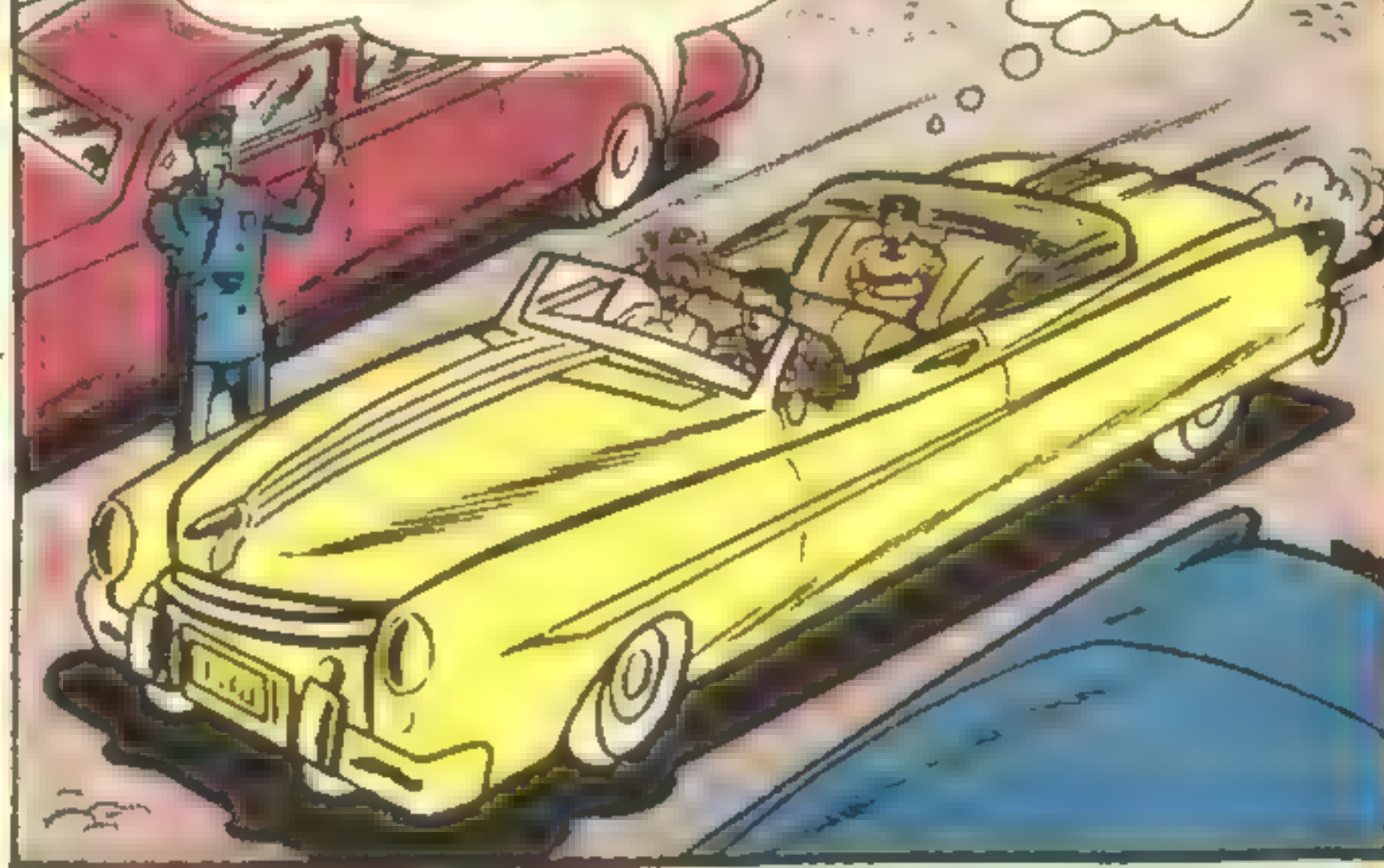
WHY NOT?

A RECORD! I DON'T LIKE THIS!



A RECORDING MACHINE NOTED EVERYTHING THAT WAS SAID IN MY APARTMENT TONIGHT! IF **BATMAN** OR **ROBIN** MADE ANY **SLIPS**, WE'LL SOON KNOW THE WHOLE STORY!

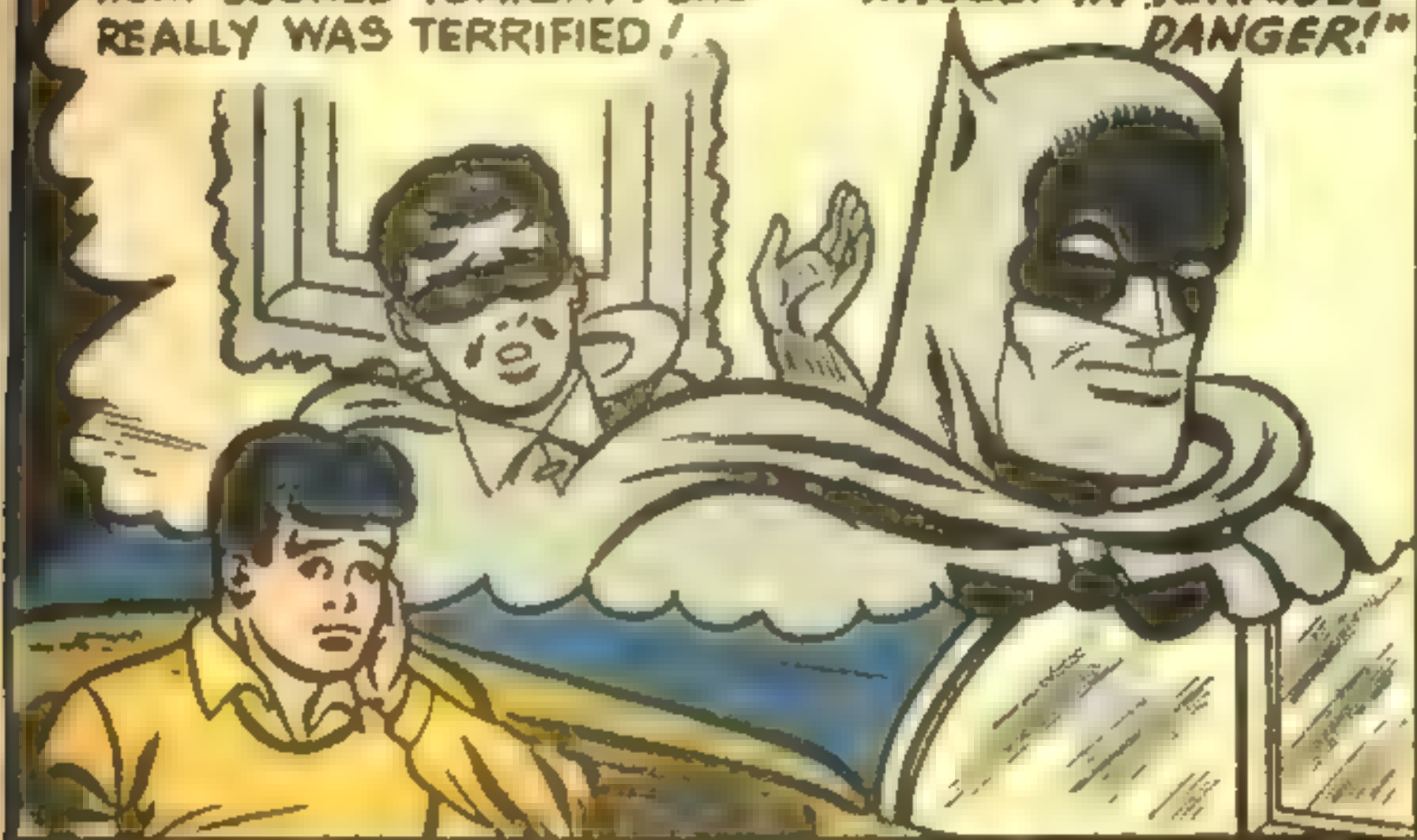
GOLLY! WHAT DID WE SAY?? WHAT DID WE SAY??



AND AS DICK'S MIND RACES BACK THROUGH THE EVENTS OF THE EVENING...

I CAN'T GET OVER THE WAY VICKI LOOKED TONIGHT! SHE REALLY WAS TERRIFIED!

REMEMBER--SHE TOLD US, "I'VE PUT MYSELF IN TERRIBLE DANGER!"

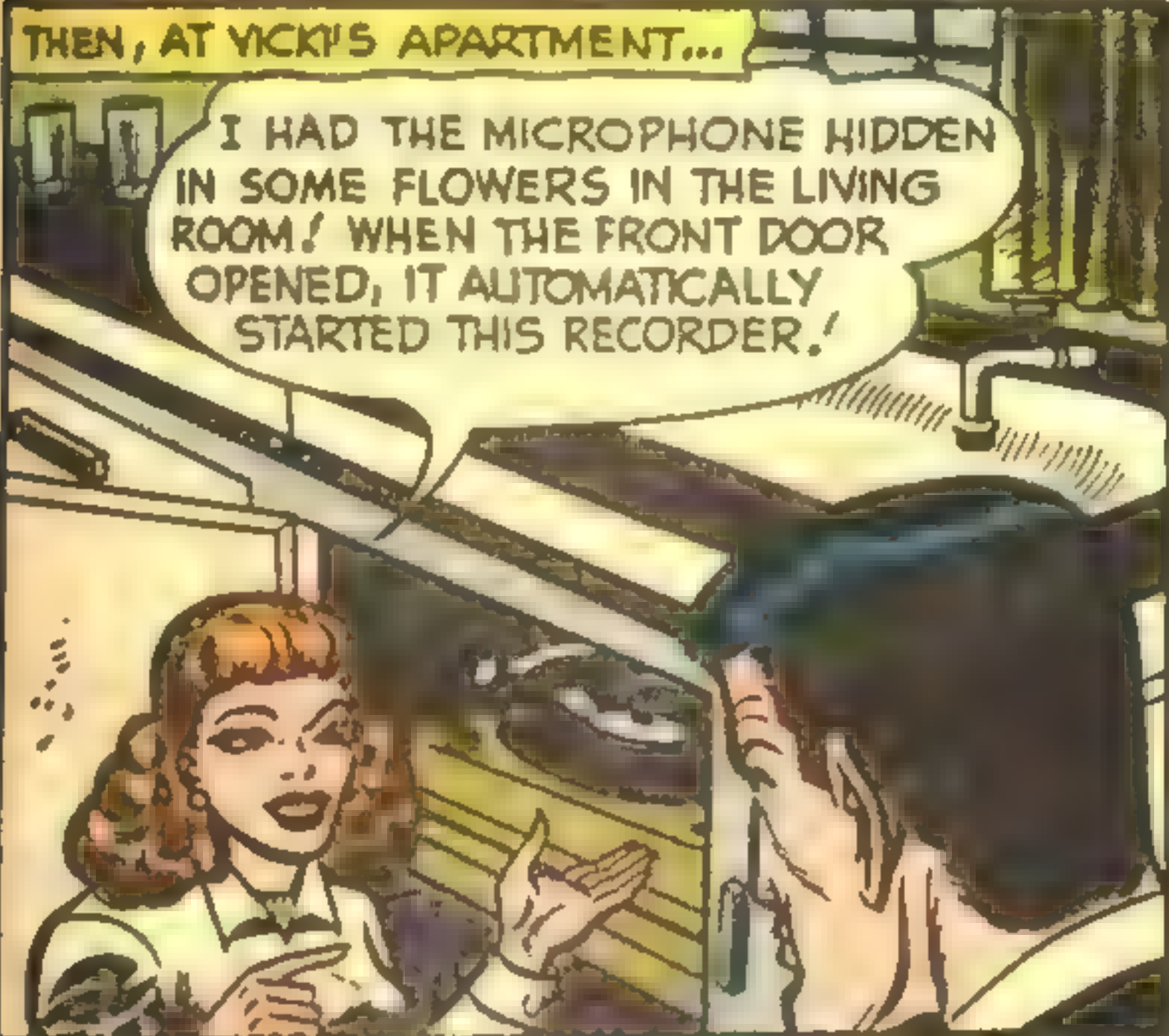


WE'RE SUNK!



THEN, AT VICKI'S APARTMENT...

I HAD THE MICROPHONE HIDDEN IN SOME FLOWERS IN THE LIVING ROOM! WHEN THE FRONT DOOR OPENED, IT AUTOMATICALLY STARTED THIS RECORDER!



I'LL KNOW IF THIS IS THE RECORD I LEFT IN THE MACHINE! YOU SEE--I RECORDED MY VOICE ON IT FIRST, TO TRADEMARK IT!



AND AS VICKI TURNS THE RECORD ON...

THIS IS VICKI VALE SPEAKING--I HOPE THE NEXT VOICE YOU HEAR WILL BE BATMAN'S!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, DICK--NERVOUS?



SUDDENLY, A STEADY HUM OF STATIC...

HUMMMMMMMM...

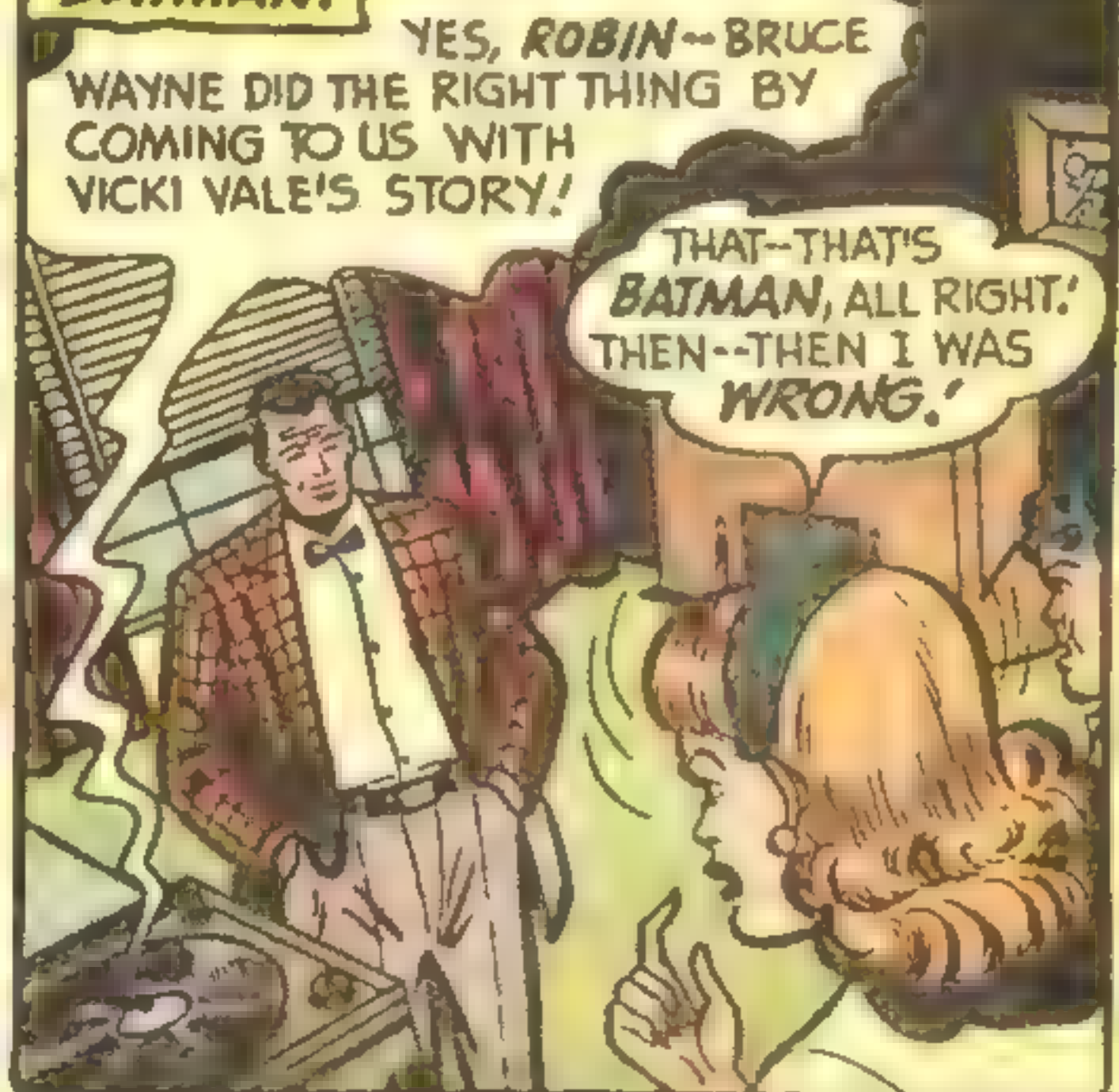
GOLLY, I HOPE NOTHING WENT WRONG!



... AND THEN THE UNMISTAKABLE VOICE OF BATMAN!

YES, ROBIN--BRUCE WAYNE DID THE RIGHT THING BY COMING TO US WITH VICKI VALE'S STORY!

THAT--THAT'S BATMAN, ALL RIGHT! THEN--THEN I WAS WRONG!



SOON AFTER...

BRUCE--HOW CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE ME!

FORGET IT, VICKI! ONLY PLEASE--STOP PLAYING DETECTIVE FROM NOW ON! JUST STAY AS SWEET AS YOU ARE!

AND LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE'S HALL OF TROPHIES...

NOW, WILL YOU PLEASE TELL ME *HOW* YOU "FIXED" THAT RECORD OF VICKI'S!

EASY! I SPOTTED THE MIKE AS SOON AS WE WALKED IN! I DIDN'T KNOW WHO HAD PLANTED IT, SO I TOOK NO CHANCES! I TURNED ON THE FAN--REMEMBER? THAT EFFECTIVELY DROWNED OUT THE MIKE!

AND THEN YOU RETURNED LATER, TO RECORD WHAT VICKI HEARD! BUT WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YOU HAD SPOTTED THE MIKE?

A LESSON IN VIGILANCE, *ROBIN!* YOU SHOULD HAVE SPOTTED THAT MIKE, TOO! I INTENDED TO SHOW YOU DRAMATICALLY HOW IMPORTANT IT IS ALWAYS TO BE ALERT!

The END

The gang goes for **BOOBY-TRAP!**

JUST WHAT I WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS!

HEY, WHAT A GROOVY GAME!

I JUST PICKED OUT A *BIG* PIECE--THEY COUNT FOR MORE POINTS!

**ZAP!**

I TRIGGERED THE SPRING-BAR AND SCATTERED THE PIECES! NOW IT'S YOUR TURN. THIS WOULD BE FUN AT BOB'S PARTY. LET'S TAKE IT WITH US!

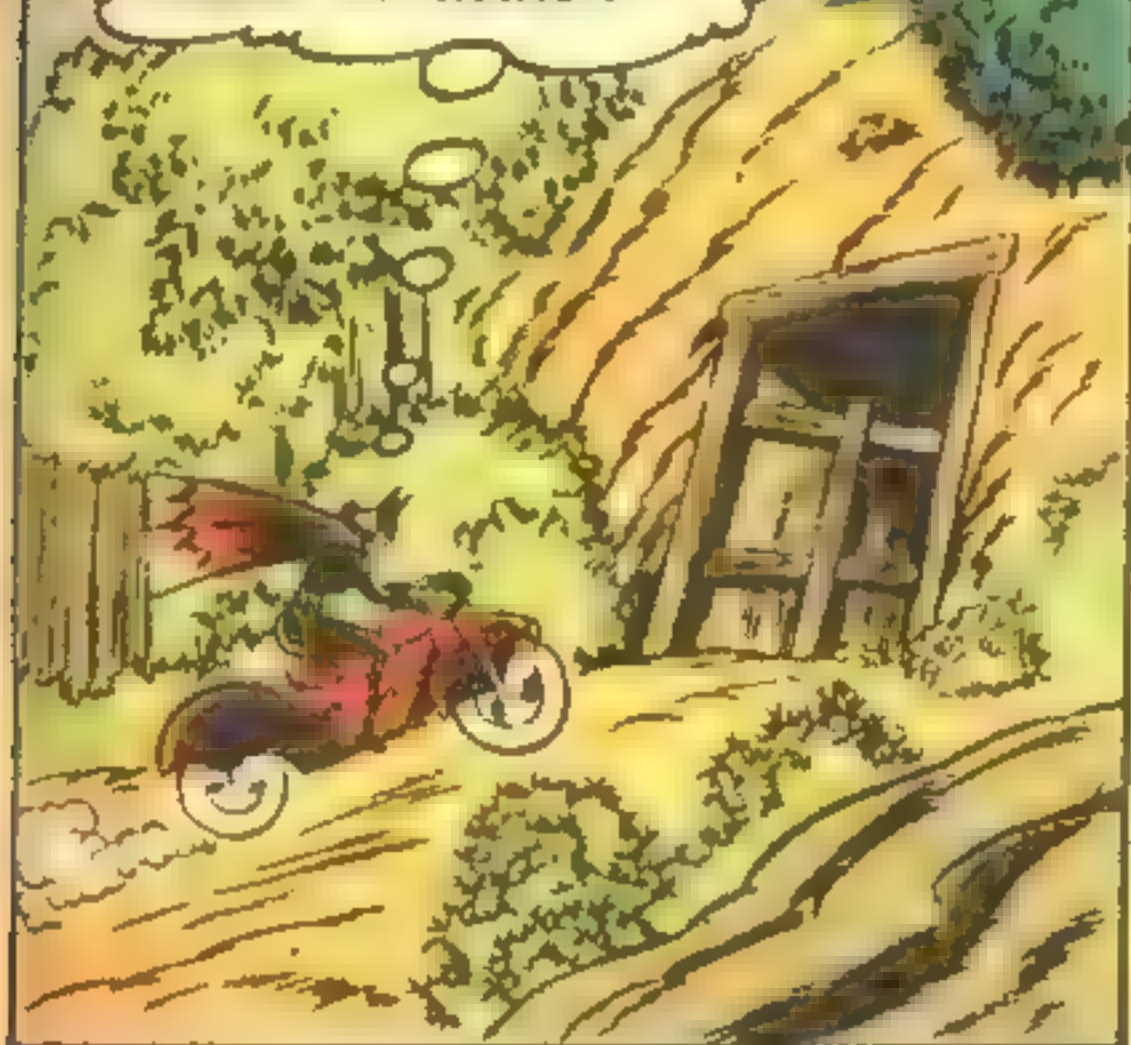
\*PARKER BROTHERS' TRADEMARK FOR ITS SPRING BAR GAME EQUIPMENT

famous  
**PARKER GAMES**

Parker Brothers Inc.

ANOTHER WOMAN CAME ALONG LATER... **BATWOMAN!**

THIS FORGOTTEN OLD MINE-TUNNEL IN THE SUBURBS CAME IN HANDY--



A CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND...

KATHY KANE, HEIRESS-- NO ONE WILL EVER DREAM I'M **BATWOMAN**--OR HOW I CAME TO BE **BATWOMAN!**



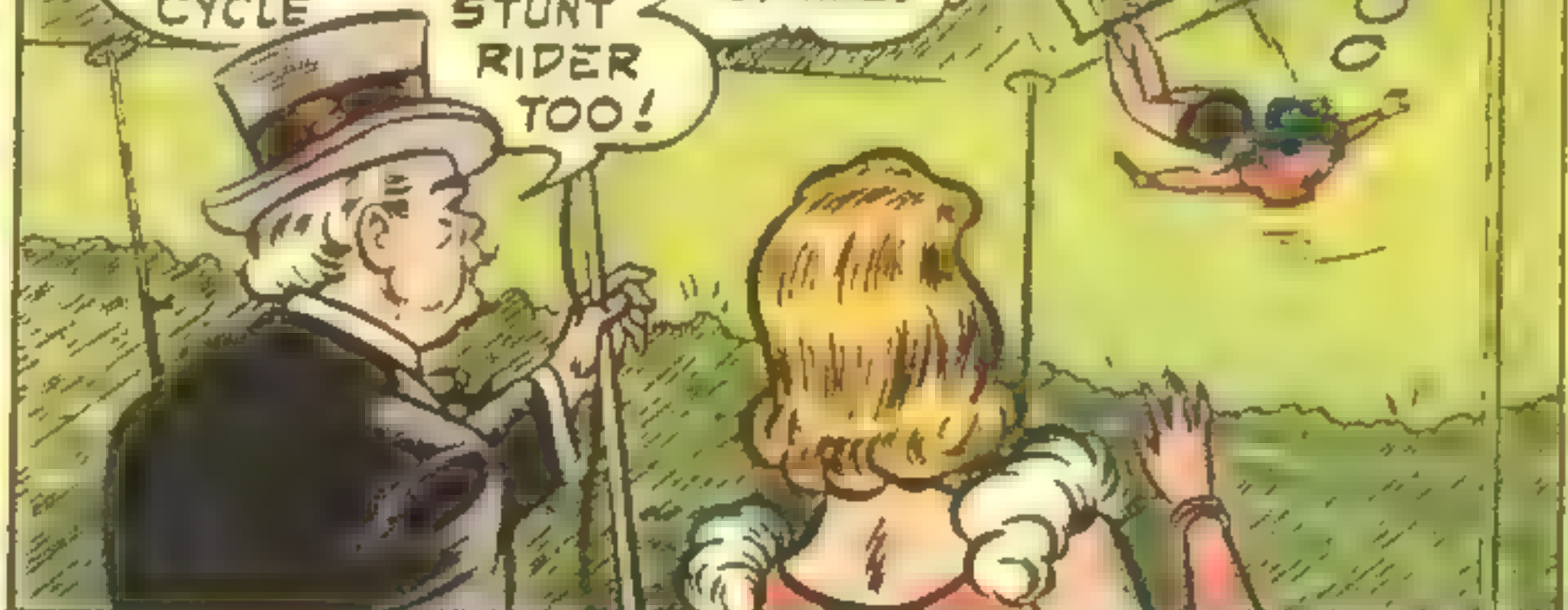
--FOR WHEN I BUILT MY HOUSE OVER THE TUNNEL, IT GAVE ME A HIDDEN **BAT-CAVE** UNDERNEATH! AND MY OWN PORTRAIT **GUARDS** MY **BAT-CAVE** FOR ME! IT CONCEALS CAMERAS THAT WILL PHOTOGRAPH ANY INTRUDER!



"BECAUSE NO ONE DREAMS I WAS ONCE A CIRCUS DAREDEVIL PERFORMER!"

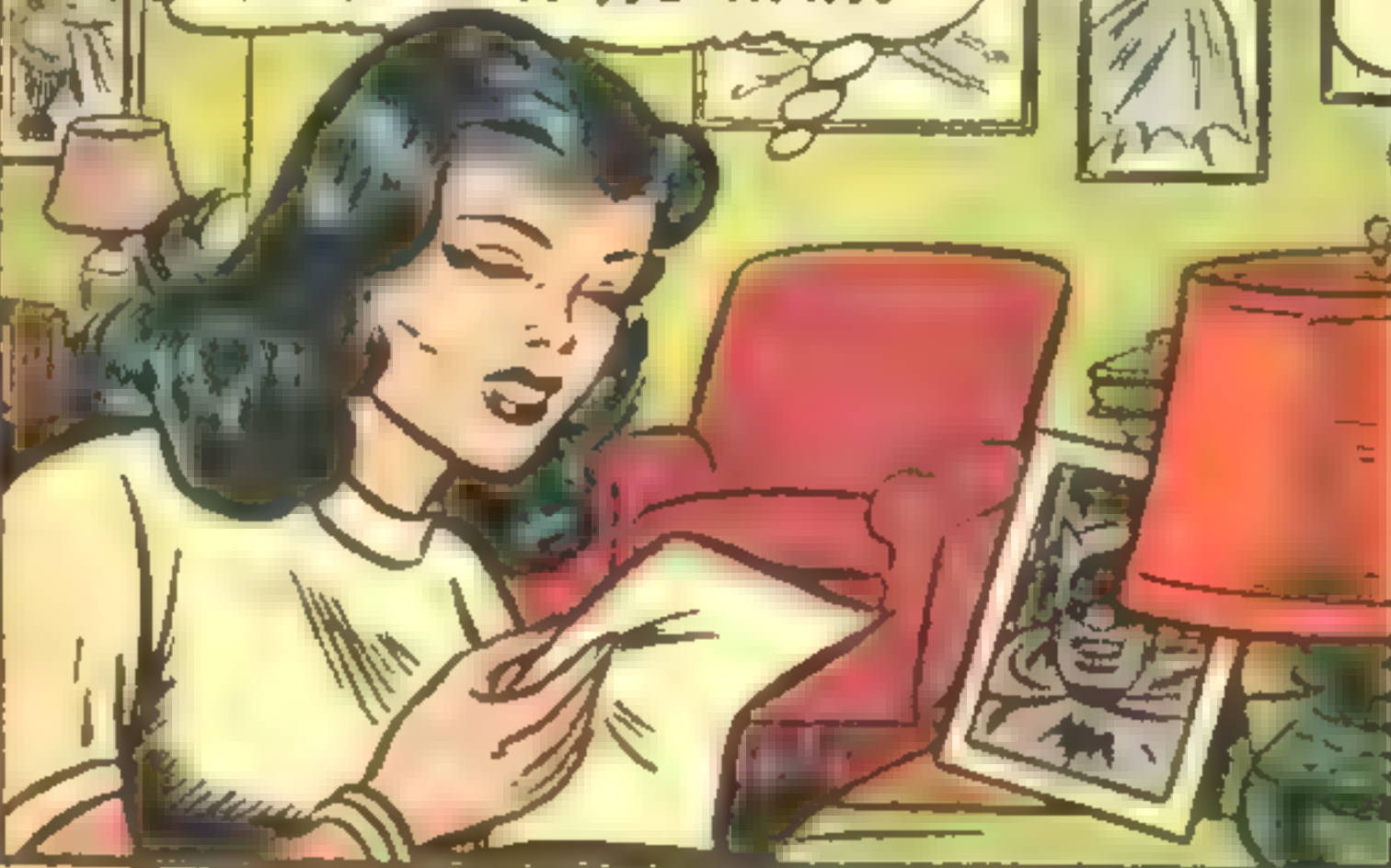
SHE'S A FINE TRAPEZE PERFORMER-- AND OUR BEST MOTOR-CYCLE STUNT RIDER TOO!

BUT I WISH I COULD BE LIKE **BATMAN**, THE GREATEST ACROBAT OF ALL! HE USES HIS SKILL, NOT FOR SHOWS, BUT AGAINST CRIME!



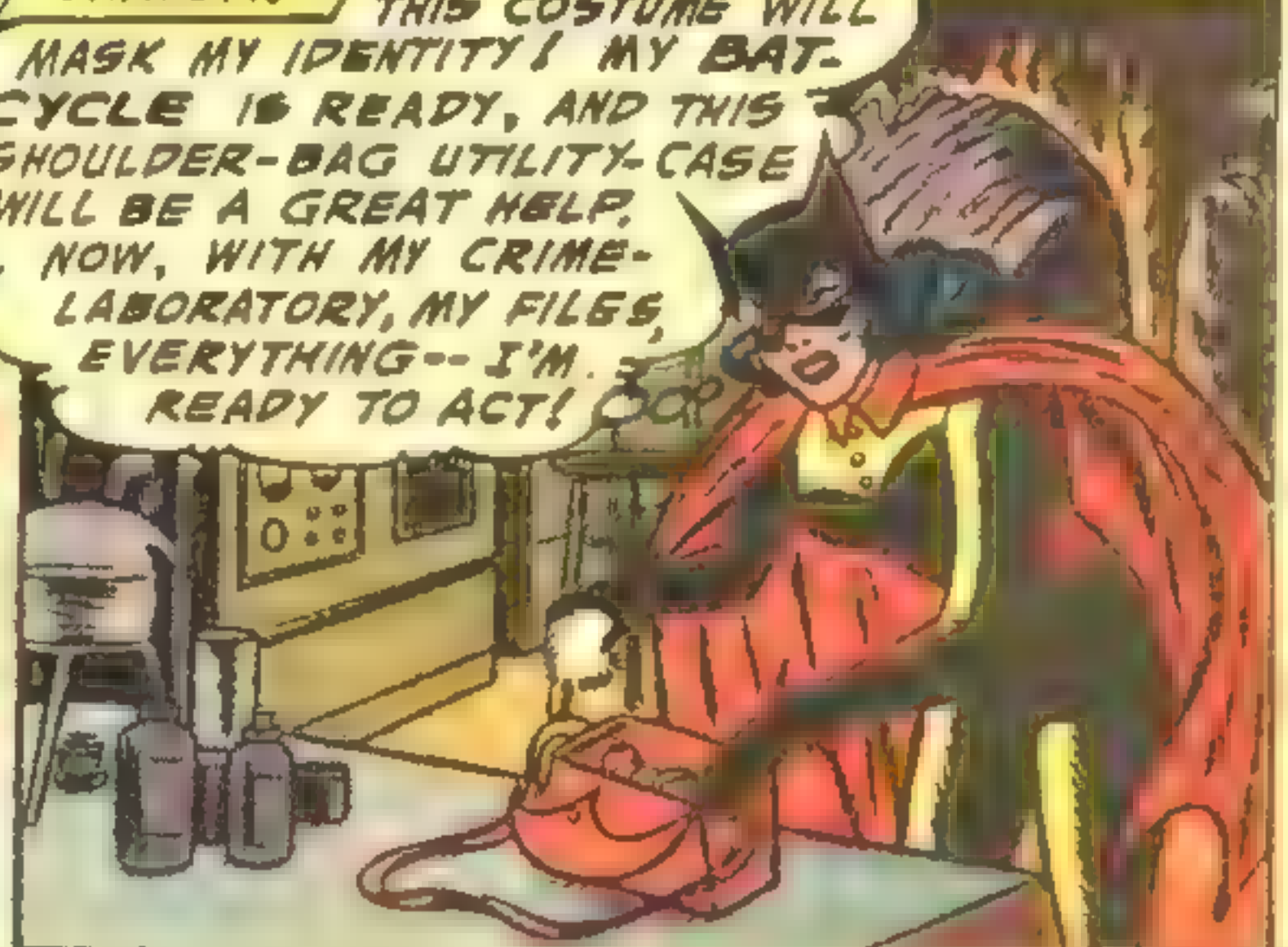
"BUT ONE DAY AN INHERITANCE GAVE ME A CHANCE TO REALIZE MY AMBITION!"

I INHERIT MY UNCLE'S ENTIRE FORTUNE! NOW I CAN USE MY SKILLS AS **BATMAN** DOES! I, TOO, WILL FIGHT CRIME--I'LL BE A **BATWOMAN!**



"AND IN THIS **BAT-CAVE** I FITTED UP UNDER MY NEW MANSION, I TRAINED LONG FOR MY CAREER!"

THIS COSTUME WILL MASK MY IDENTITY! MY **BAT-CYCLE** IS READY, AND THIS SHOULDER-BAG UTILITY-CASE WILL BE A GREAT HELP. NOW, WITH MY CRIME-LABORATORY, MY FILES, EVERYTHING-- I'M READY TO ACT!

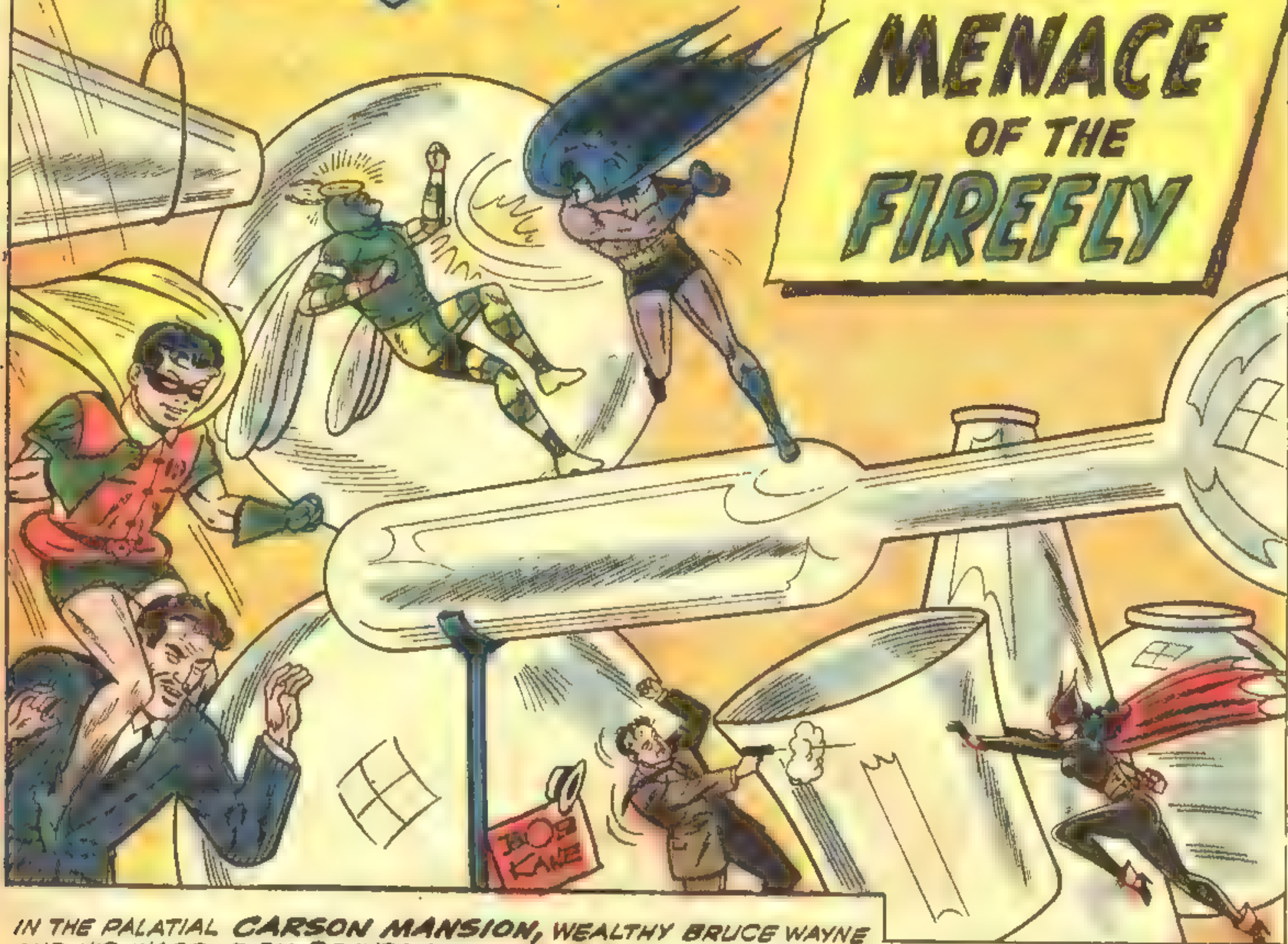


# BATMAN

With  
**ROBIN**  
THE BOY WONDER

BATWOMAN'S CRIME-BUSTING CAREER CONTINUED FOR SEVERAL YEARS. HERE IS ONE OF HER MOST EXCITING ADVENTURES...

## THE MENACE OF THE FIREFLY



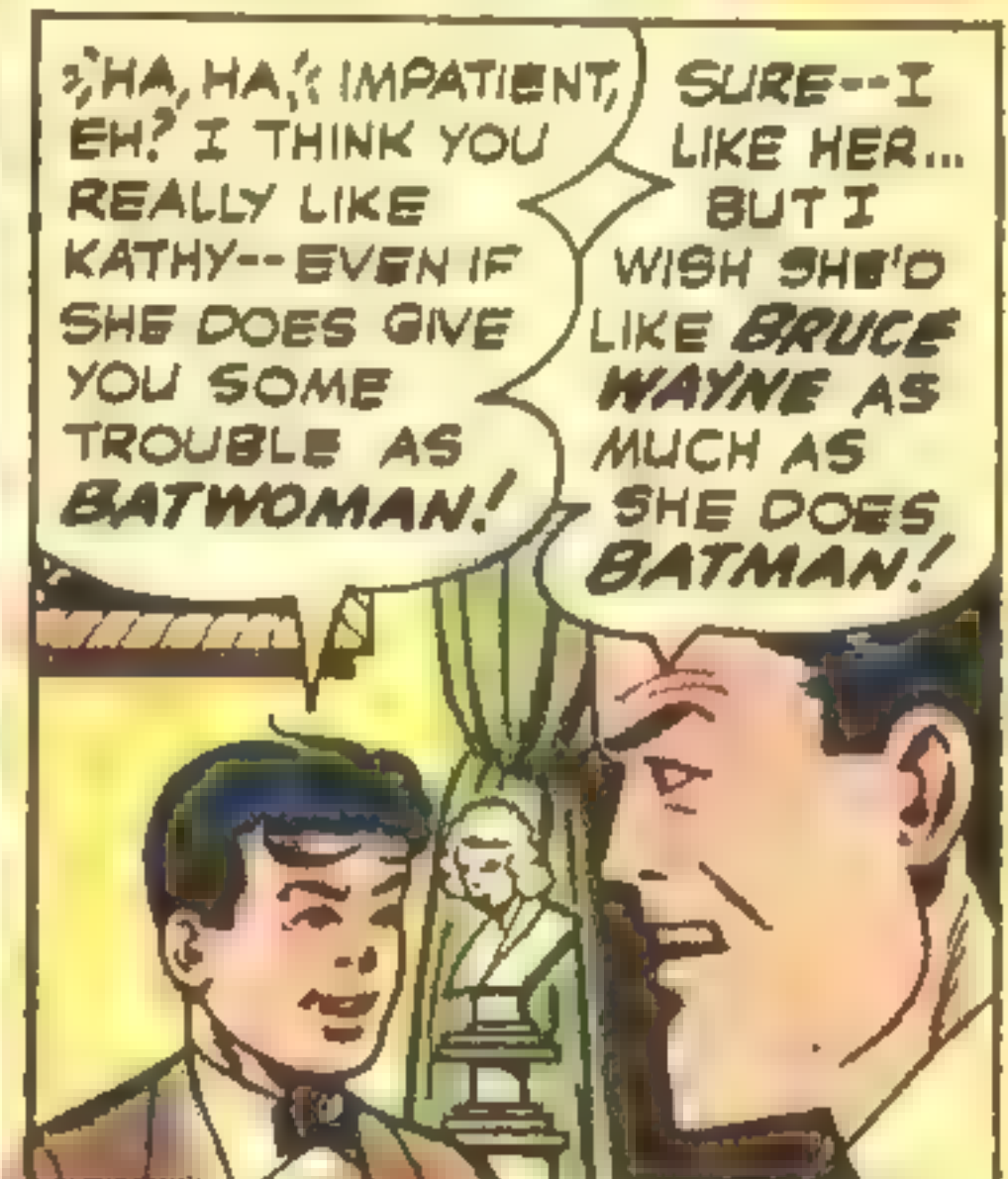
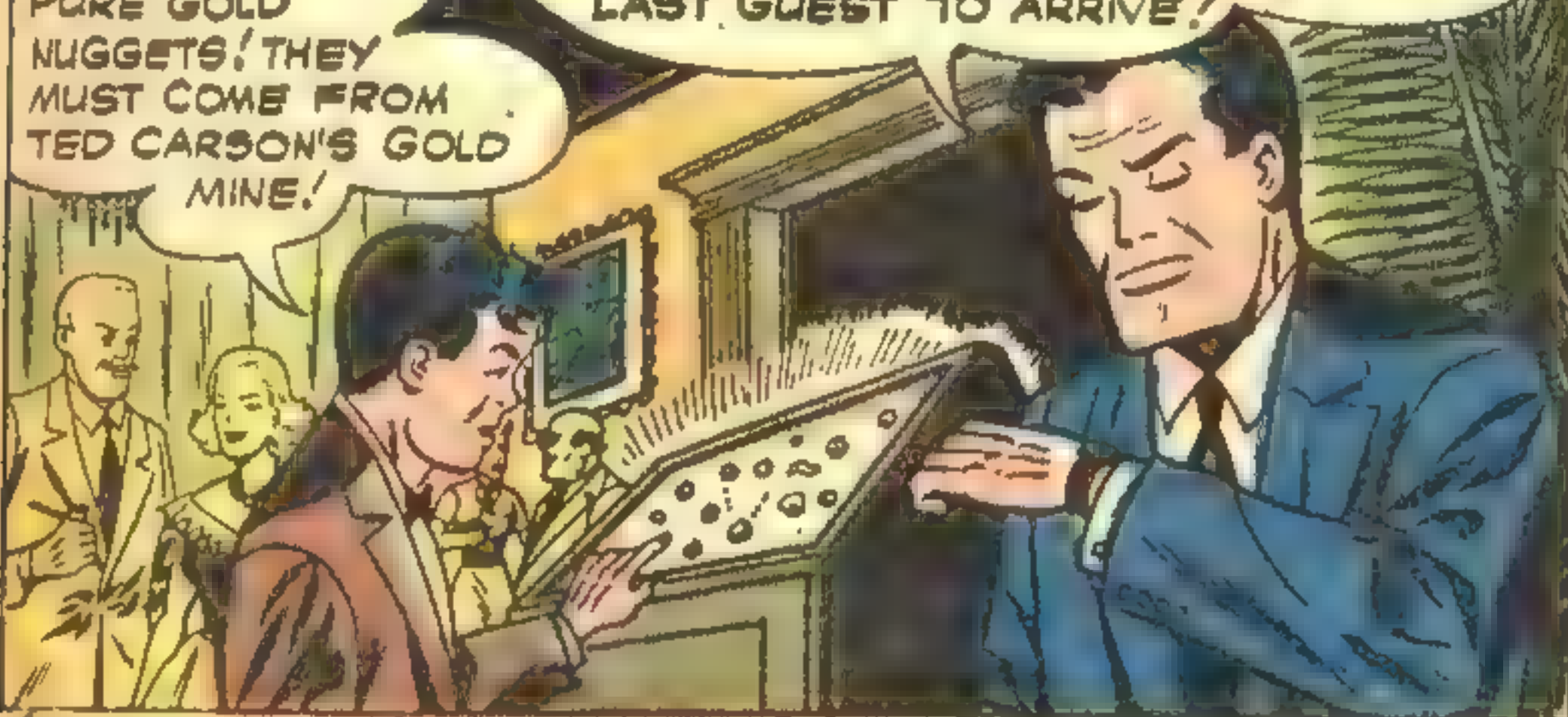
IN THE PALATIAL CARSON MANSION, WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, ATTEND A PARTY FOR HIGH SOCIETY...

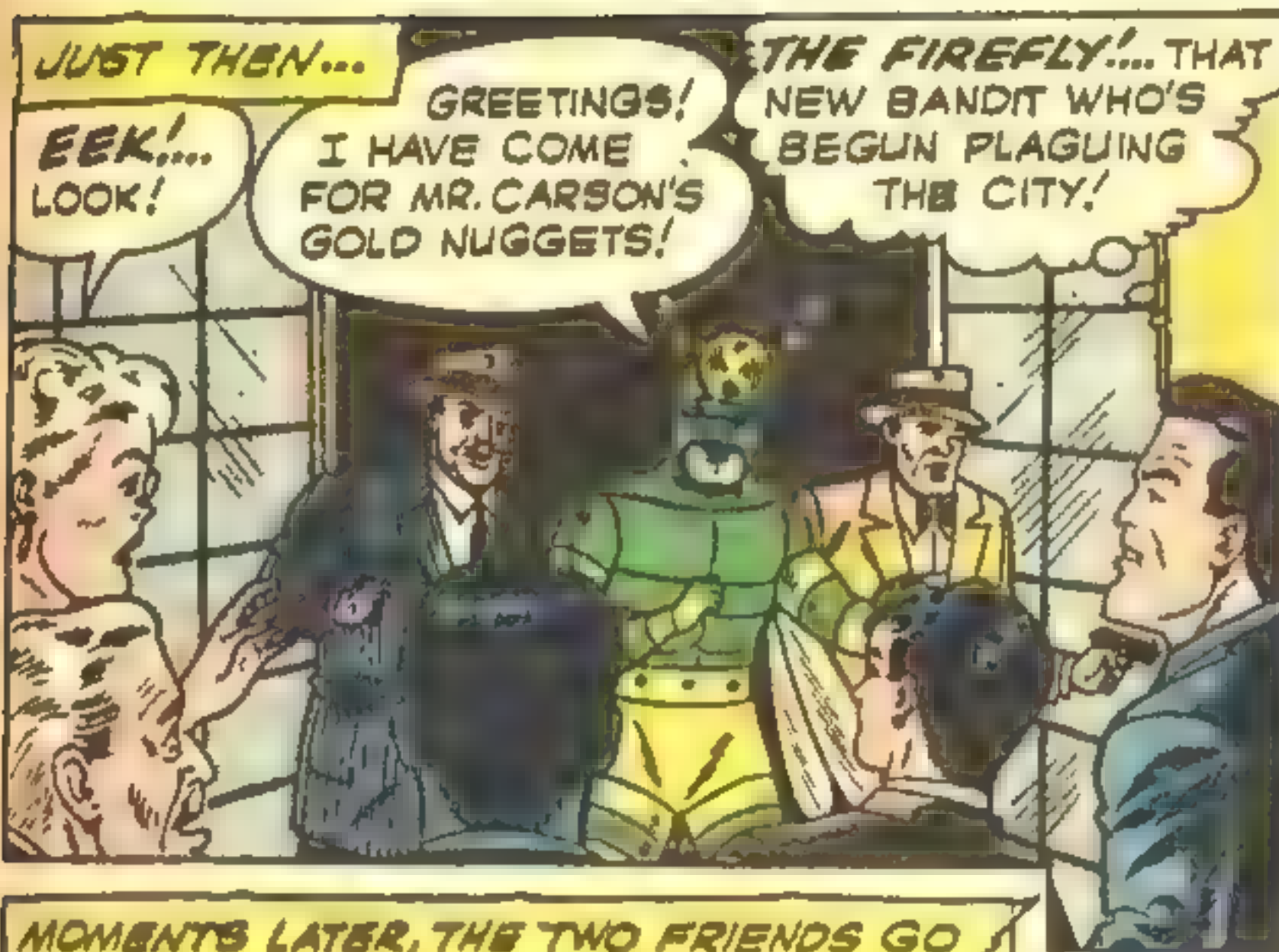
LOOK, BRUCE--  
PURE GOLD  
NUGGETS! THEY  
MUST COME FROM  
TED CARSON'S GOLD  
MINE!

YES, DICK--UH--HMM... WONDER WHAT  
HAPPENED TO KATHY KANE? SHE'S THE  
LAST GUEST TO ARRIVE!

HA, HA, IMPATIENT,  
EH? I THINK YOU  
REALLY LIKE  
KATHY--EVEN IF  
SHE DOES GIVE  
YOU SOME  
TROUBLE AS  
BATWOMAN!

SURE--I  
LIKE HER...  
BUT I  
WISH SHE'D  
LIKE BRUCE  
WAYNE AS  
MUCH AS  
SHE DOES  
BATMAN!



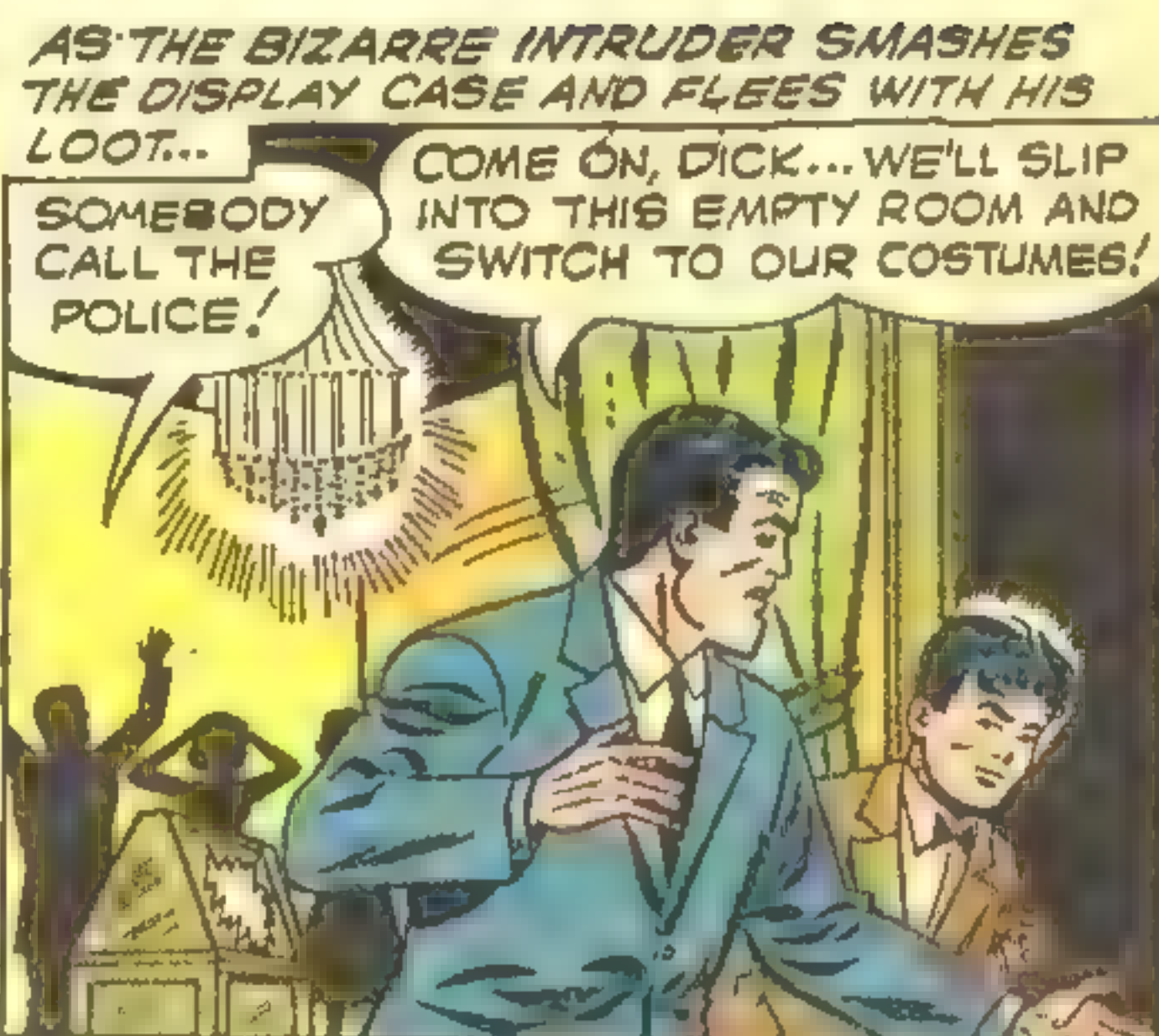


JUST THEN...

EEK!...  
LOOK!

GREETINGS!  
I HAVE COME  
FOR MR. CARSON'S  
GOLD NUGGETS!

THE FIREFLY!... THAT  
NEW BANDIT WHO'S  
BEGUN PLAGUING  
THE CITY!



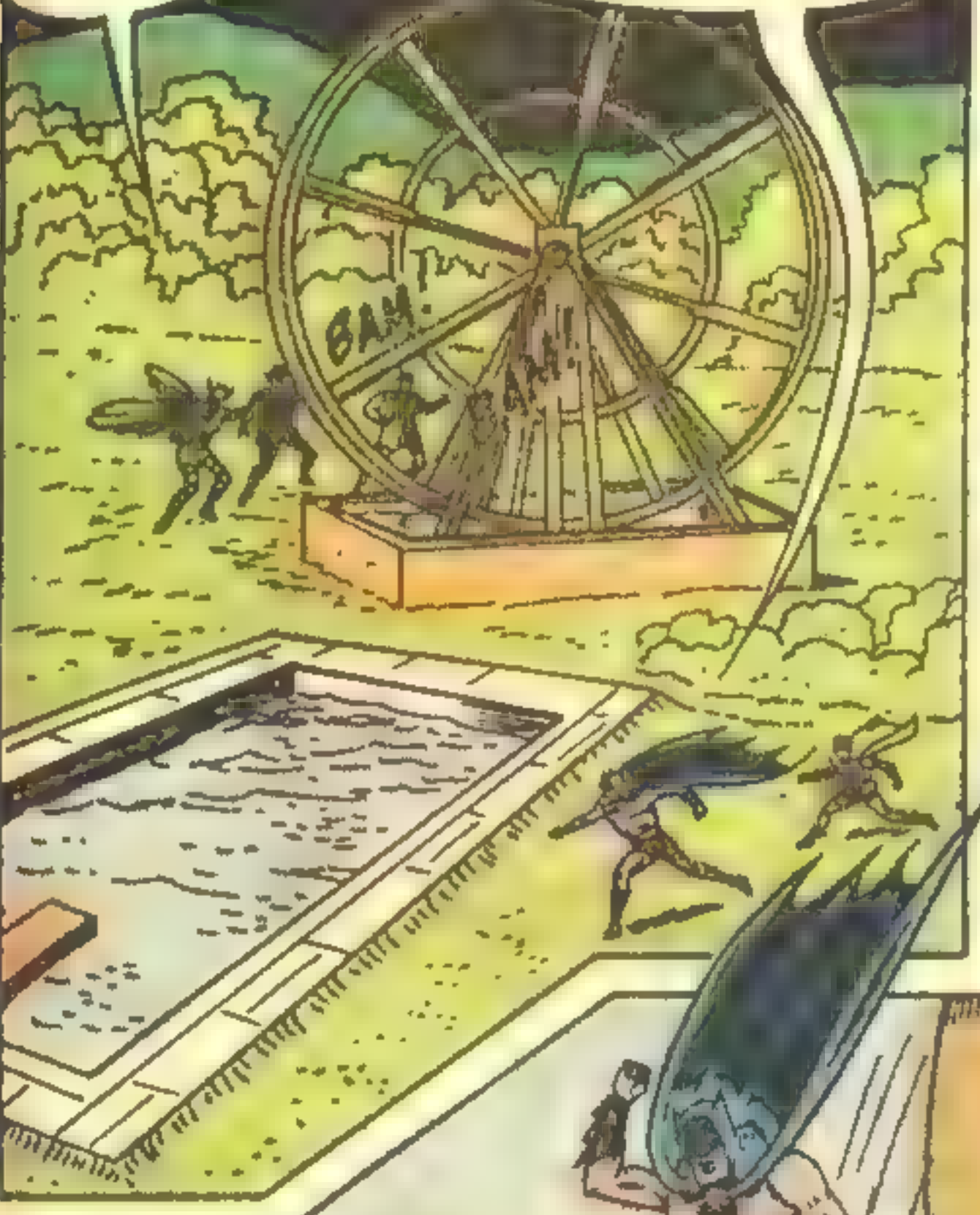
SOMEBODY  
CALL THE  
POLICE!

COME ON, DICK... WE'LL SLIP  
INTO THIS EMPTY ROOM AND  
SWITCH TO OUR COSTUMES!

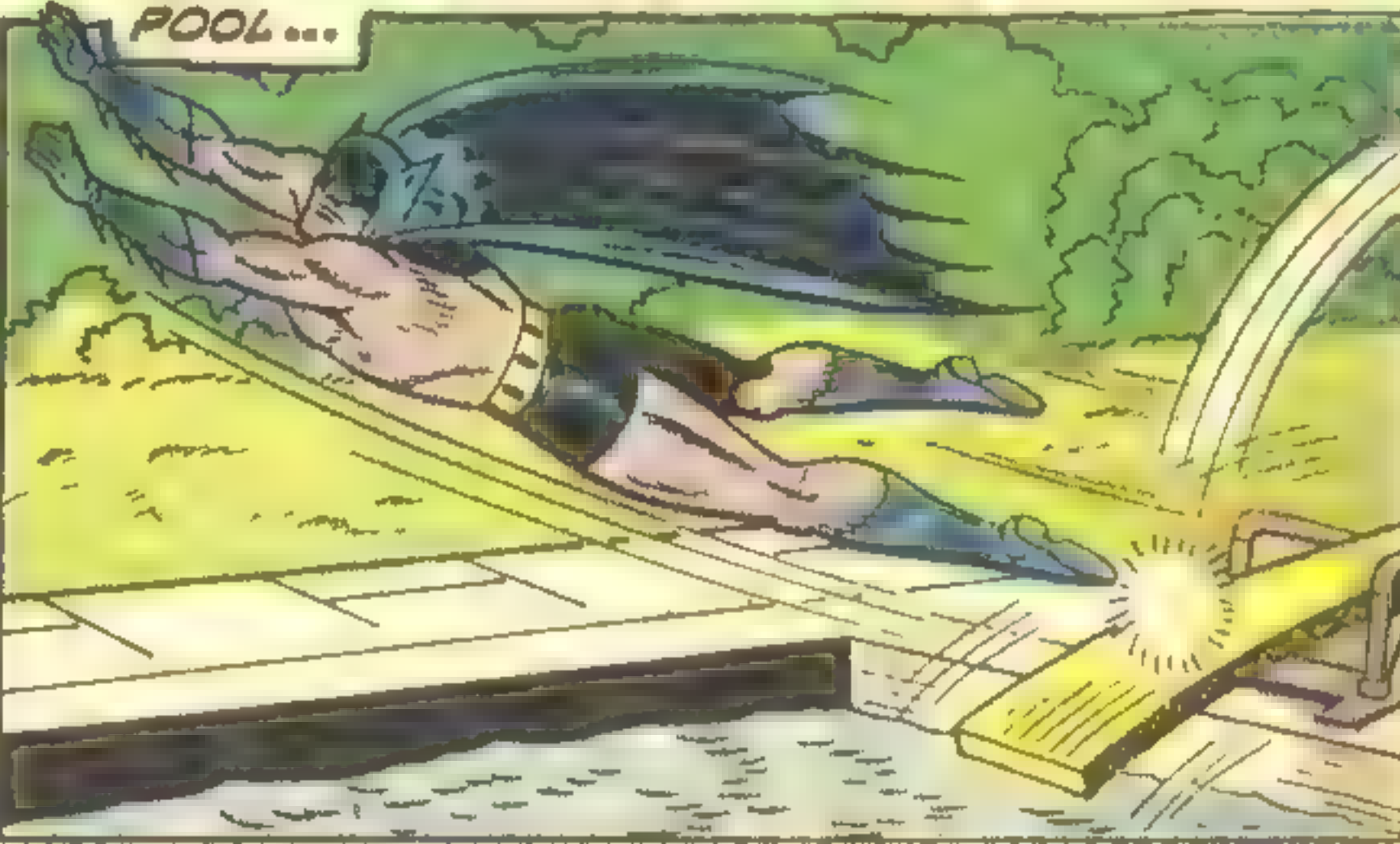
MOMENTS LATER, THE TWO FRIENDS GO  
CHARGING TO THE RESCUE AS...

BATMAN  
AND ROBIN!  
DUCK BEHIND  
THIS SLUICE  
WHEEL,  
BOYS!

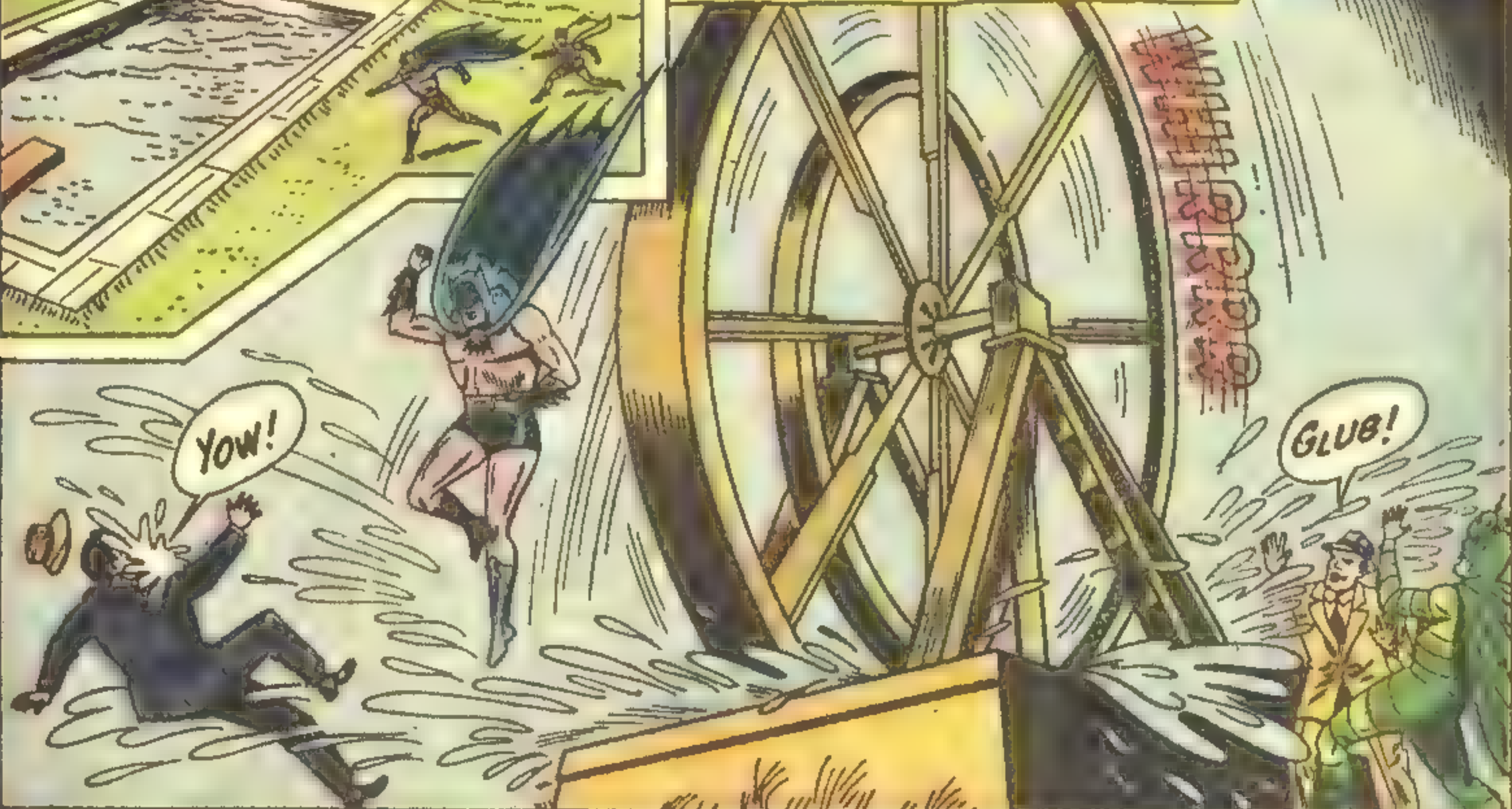
AH... BY HIDING BEHIND  
THAT ANCIENT MINING  
RELIC, THEY'RE  
PLAYING RIGHT INTO  
OUR HANDS, ROBIN!



FLEXING HIS MIGHTY MUSCLES, BATMAN LEAPS  
TO THE DIVING BOARD OF A NEARBY SWIMMING  
POOL...



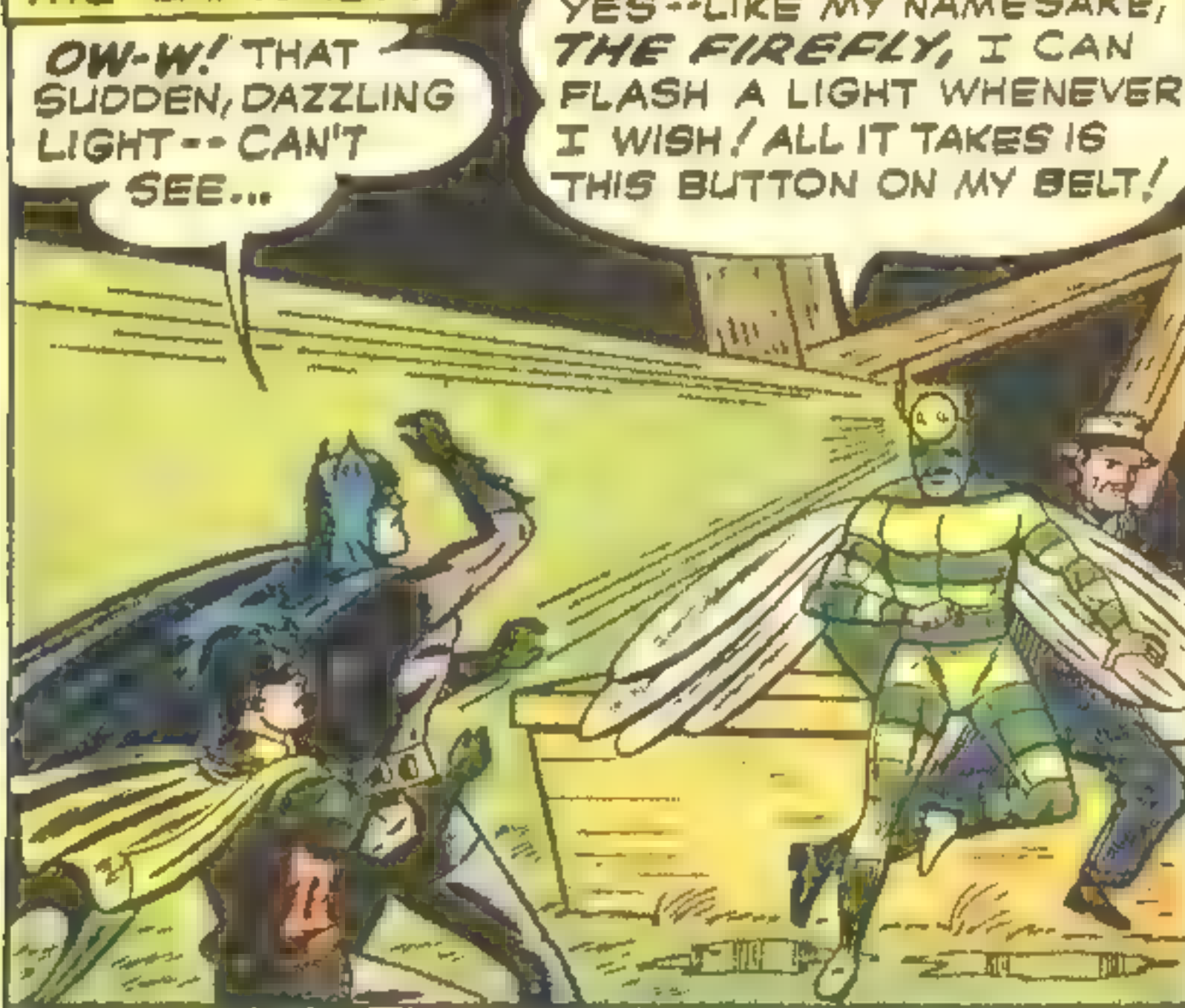
...THEN SPRINGS DOWN, BRINGING HIS FULL WEIGHT  
TO BEAR ON THE GIANT WHEEL!



YOW!

GLUB!

BUT AS BATMAN AND ROBIN MOVE IN FOR THE CAPTURE...



OW-W! THAT SUDDEN, DAZZLING LIGHT-- CAN'T SEE...

YES--LIKE MY NAMESAKE, **THE FIREFLY**, I CAN FLASH A LIGHT WHENEVER I WISH! ALL IT TAKES IS THIS BUTTON ON MY BELT!

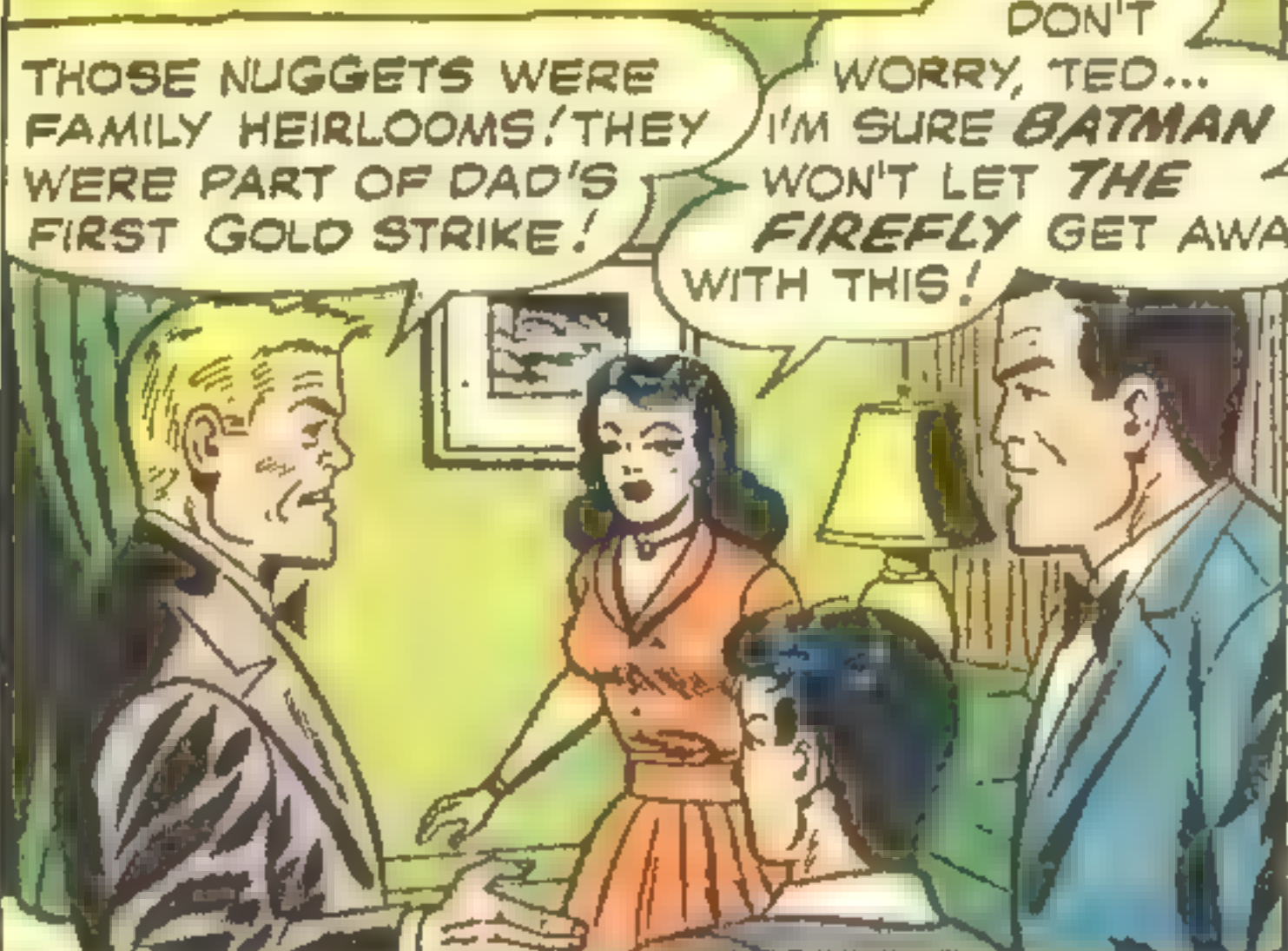
AND BY THE TIME THE PAIR CAN SEE AGAIN...



THEY'RE GONE!

TOO BAD...WE'D BETTER SLIP BACK INSIDE AND RESUME OUR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES--BEFORE THE GUESTS REALIZE WE'RE MISSING!

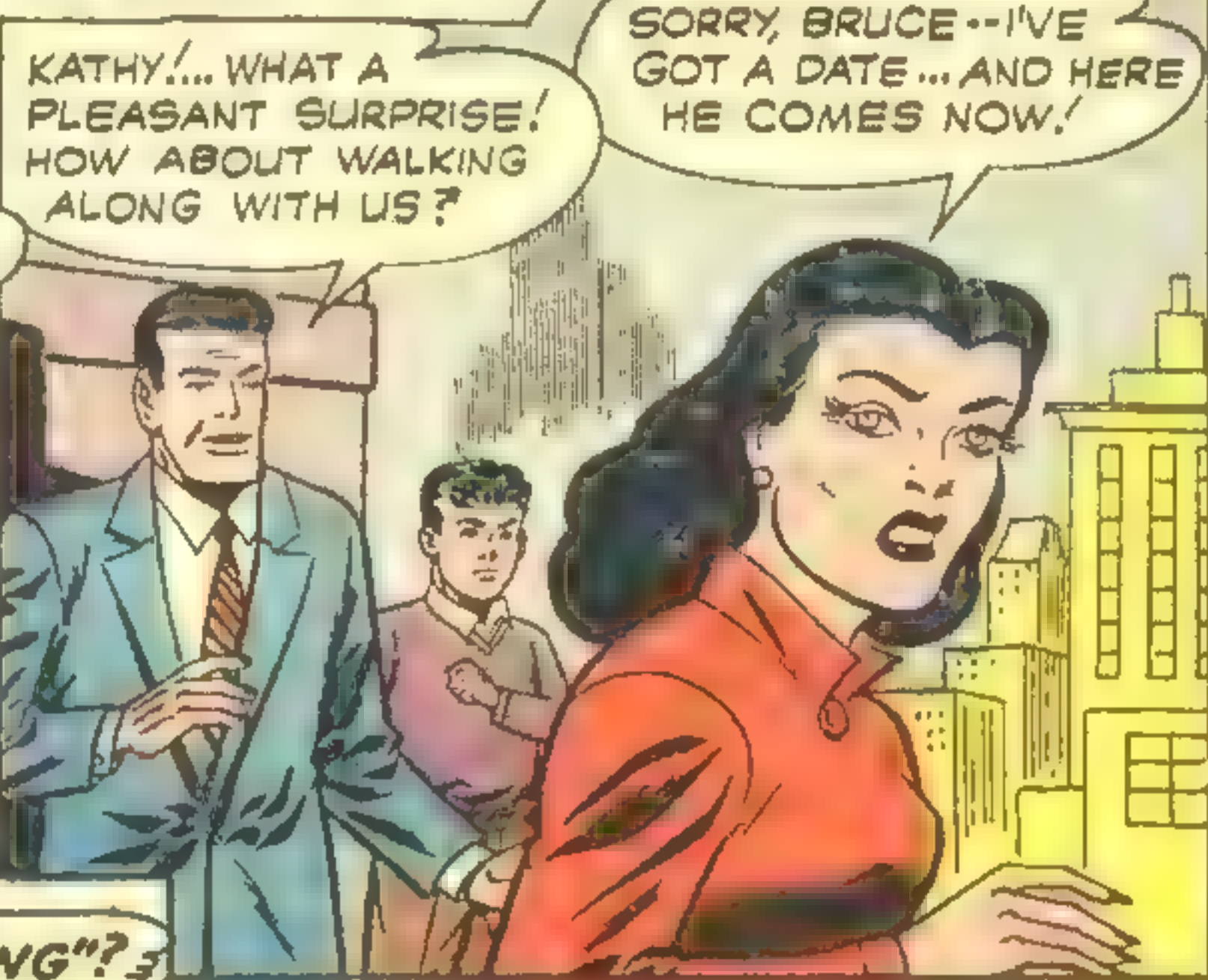
SO AWHILE LATER, AS BRUCE AND DICK, JOINED BY KATHY KANE, DISCUSS THE CRIME WITH THE VICTIM, TED CARSON...



THOSE NUGGETS WERE FAMILY HEIRLOOMS! THEY WERE PART OF DAD'S FIRST GOLD STRIKE!

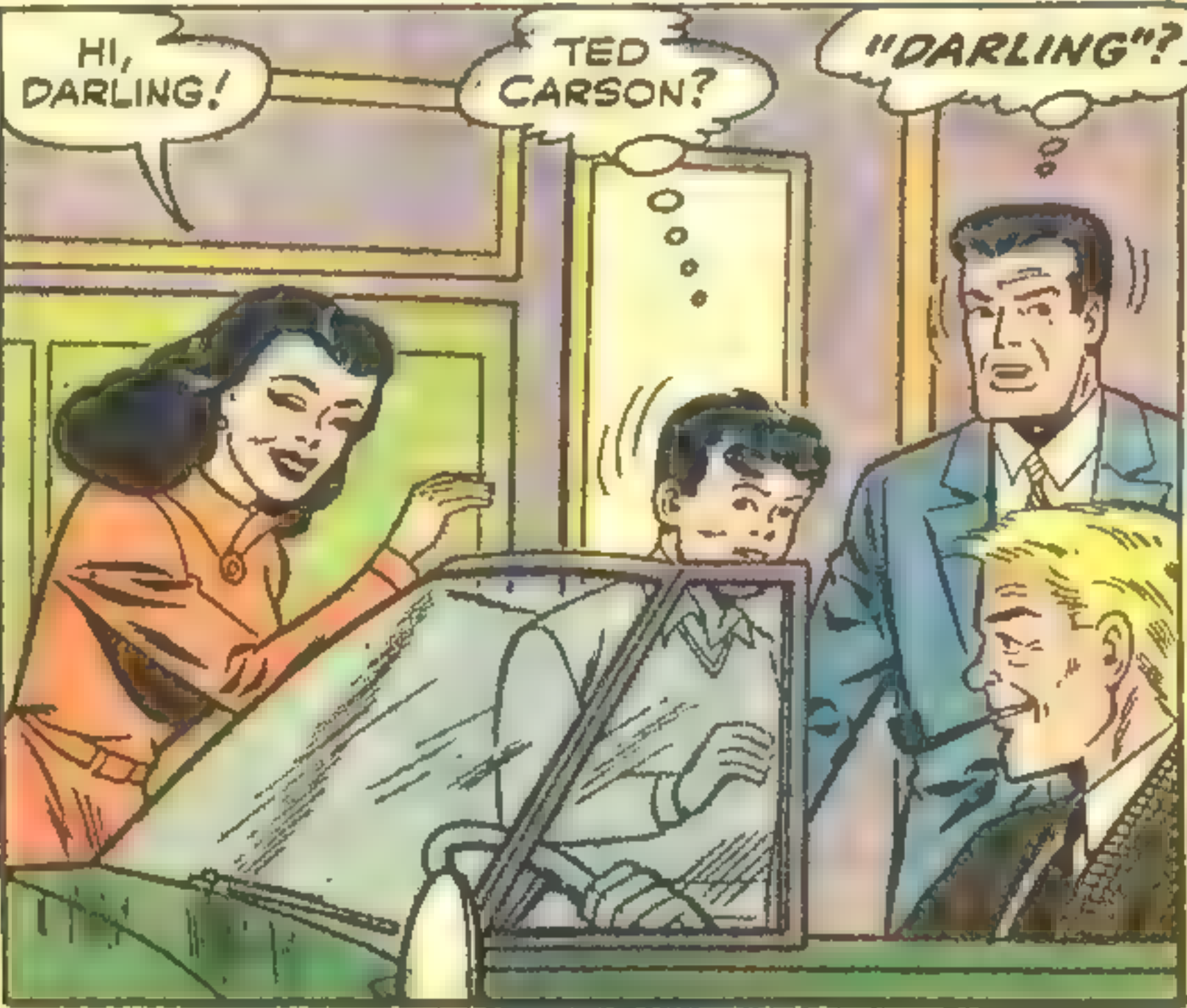
DON'T WORRY, TED... I'M SURE **BATMAN** WON'T LET **THE FIREFLY** GET AWAY WITH THIS!

AND NEXT DAY, WHILE STROLLING THE STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY...



KATHY!... WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE! HOW ABOUT WALKING ALONG WITH US?

SORRY, BRUCE--I'VE GOT A DATE... AND HERE HE COMES NOW!



HI, DARLING!

TED CARSON?

"DARLING"?

WELL...LOOKS LIKE CARSON HAS SUDDENLY MADE A BIG HIT WITH KATHY! YOU JEALOUS, BRUCE?

PERHAPS--A LITTLE! AFTER ALL, KATHY IS ATTRACTIVE! BAH!... AS IF **THE FIREFLY** ISN'T GIVING ME ENOUGH TROUBLE, NOW I'VE GOT A RIVAL TO WORRY ABOUT!

AFTERWARD, AS THEY WORK IN THE LABORATORY OF THEIR SECRET BAT-CAVE...

CALLING BATMAN AND ROBIN! PASSERBY REPORTS SEEING THE FIREFLY NEAR VICINITY OF GOTHAM GLASSWORKS!

AH...THE BREAK WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR! GET OUT THE COSTUMES, DICK!



MEANWHILE, WHERE THE GLASS FACTORY WORKMEN LINE UP FOR PAY CALL...

HA, HA! WE WORK SO HARD AT CRIME, WE THINK WE SHOULD BE PAID, TOO!

ULP! THE FIREFLY!

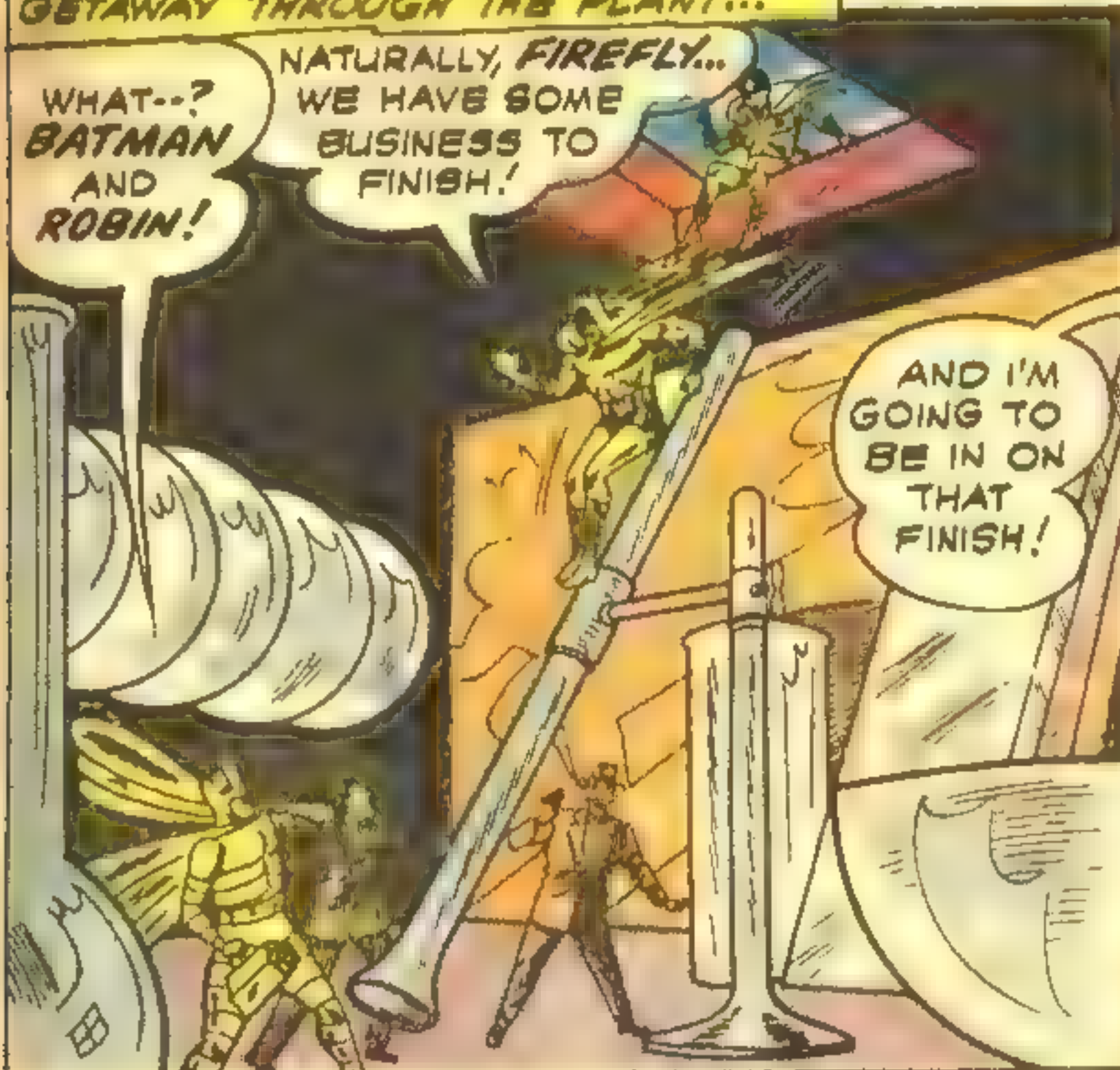


BUT AS THE ROBBERS MAKE THEIR GETAWAY THROUGH THE PLANT...

WHAT--? BATMAN AND ROBIN!

NATURALLY, FIREFLY... WE HAVE SOME BUSINESS TO FINISH!

AND I'M GOING TO BE IN ON THAT FINISH!

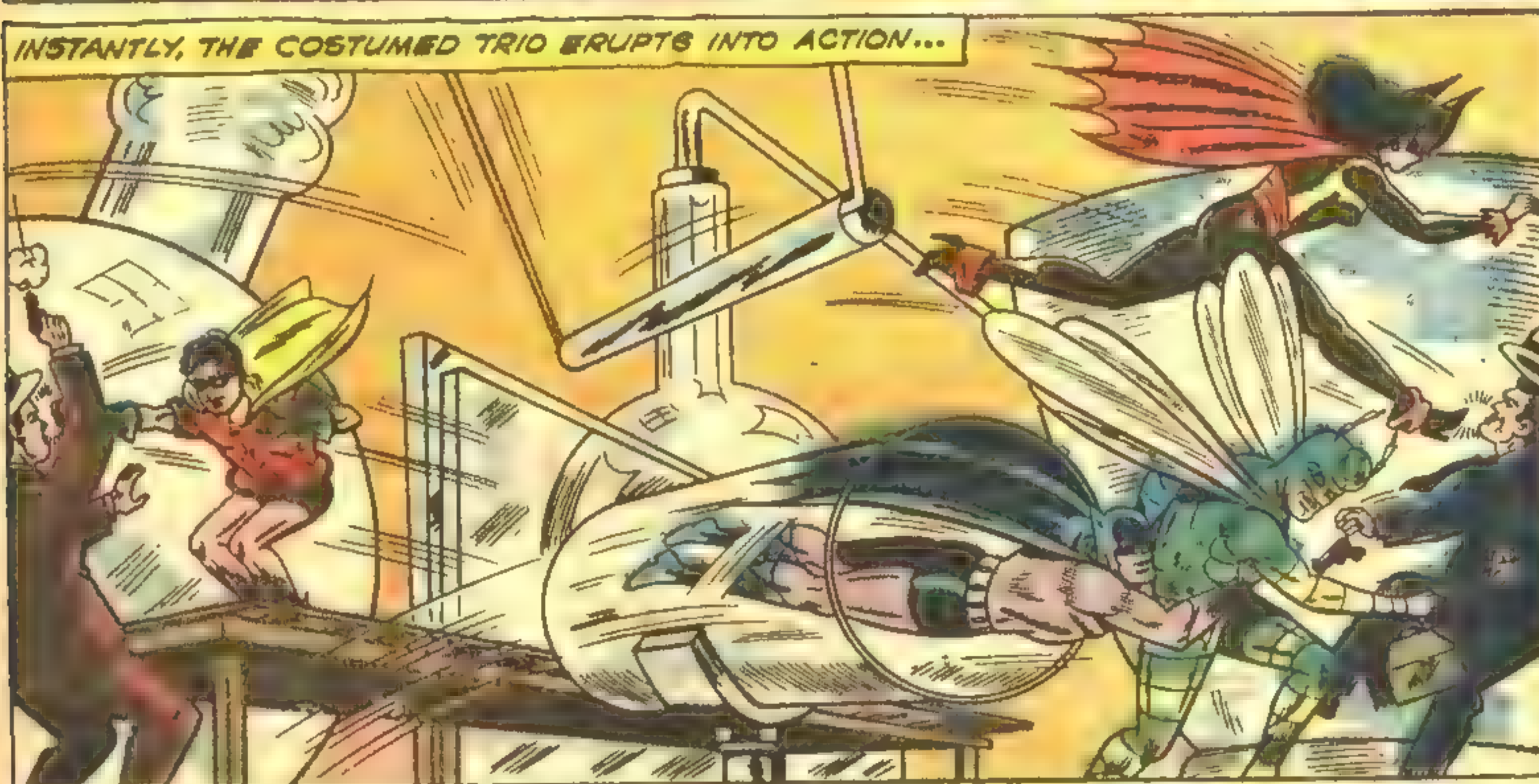


BATWOMAN!

I HEARD THAT POLICE ALARM ON MY RADIO, TOO!



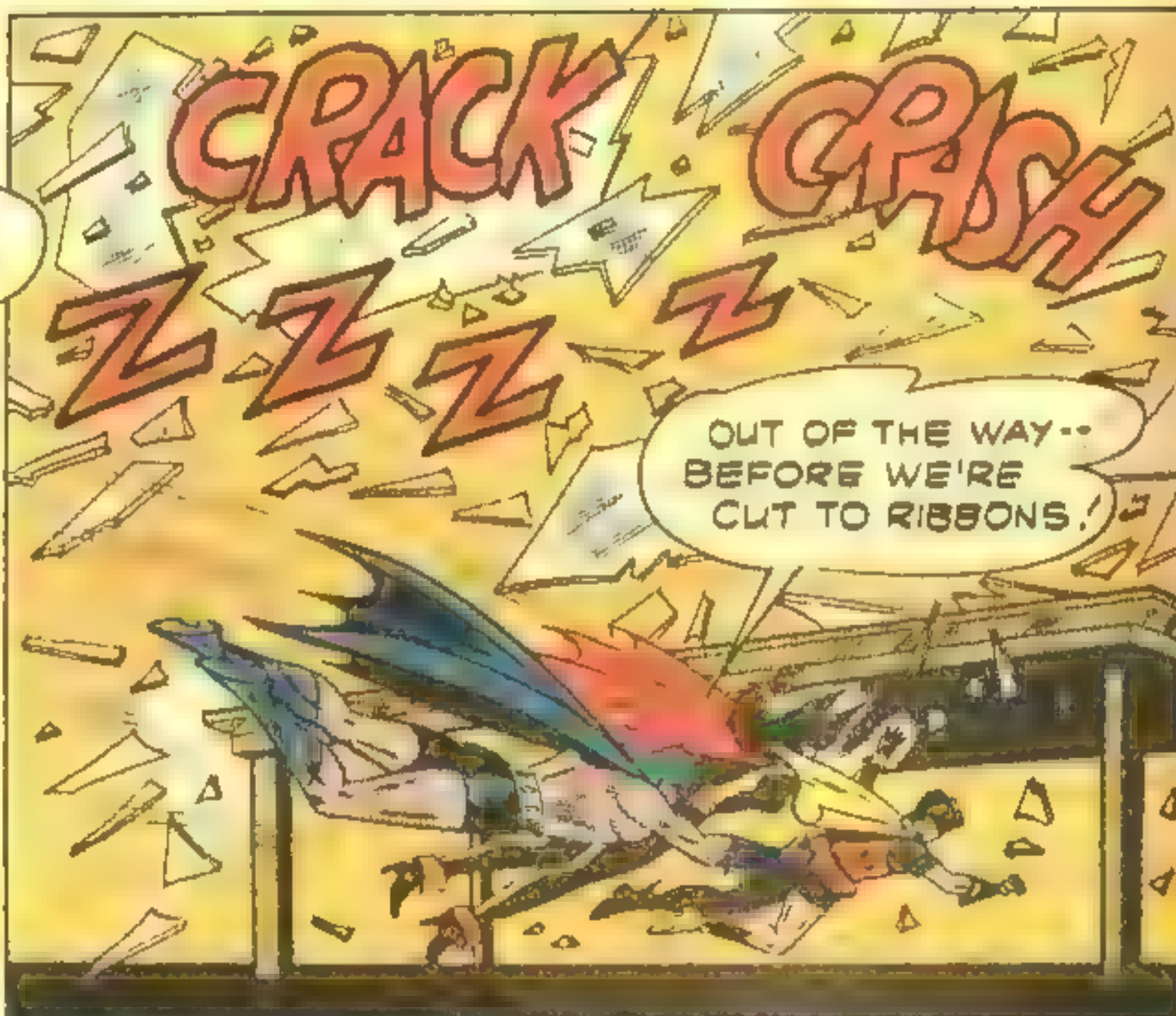
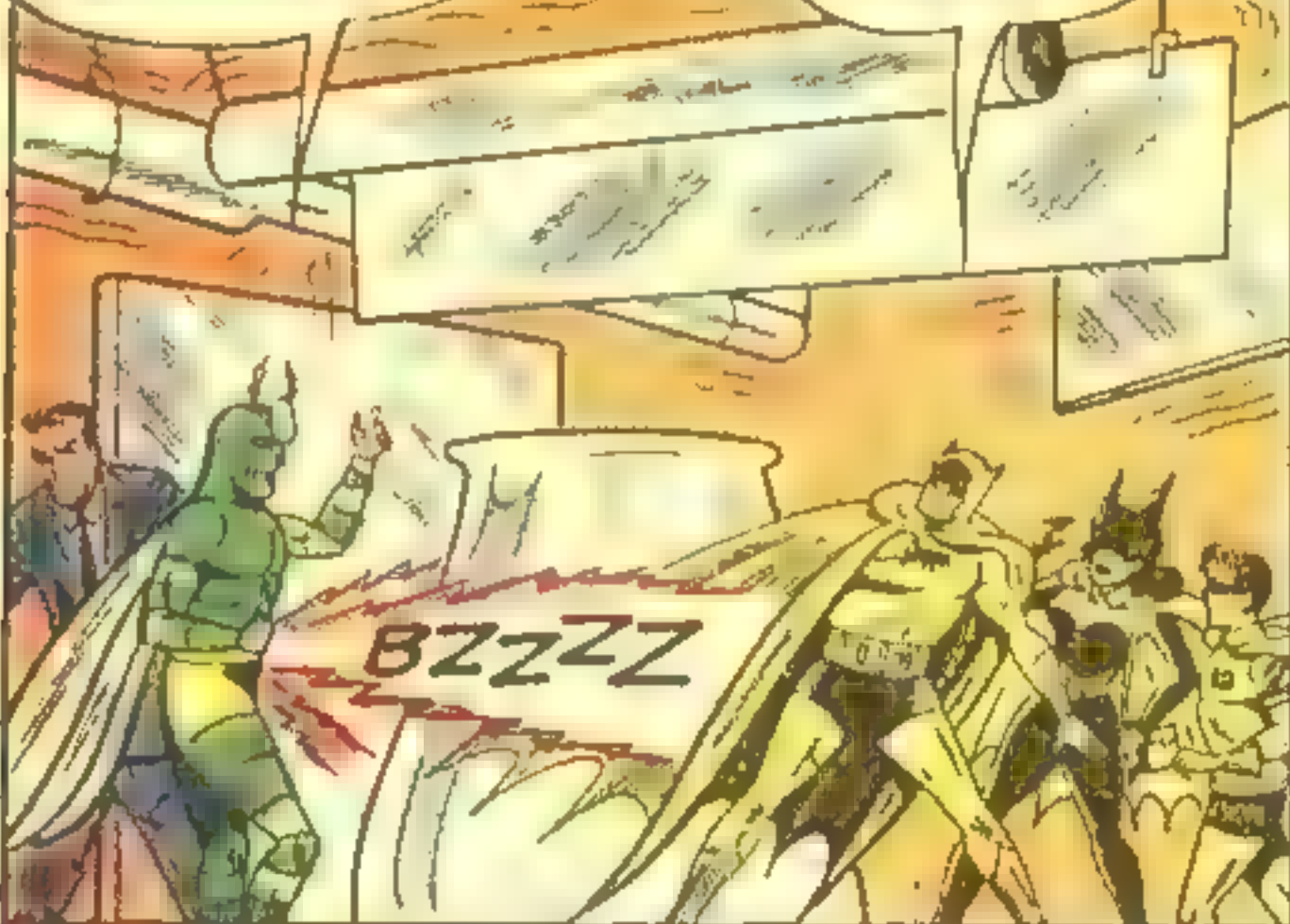
INSTANTLY, THE COSTUMED TRIO ERUPTS INTO ACTION...



BUT AS THE FIREFLY MANAGES TO PRESS ANOTHER BUTTON ON HIS BELT...

HA, HA! ...YOU FORGOT THAT FIREFLIES ARE ABLE TO BUZZ, TOO! SO LONG, BATMAN!

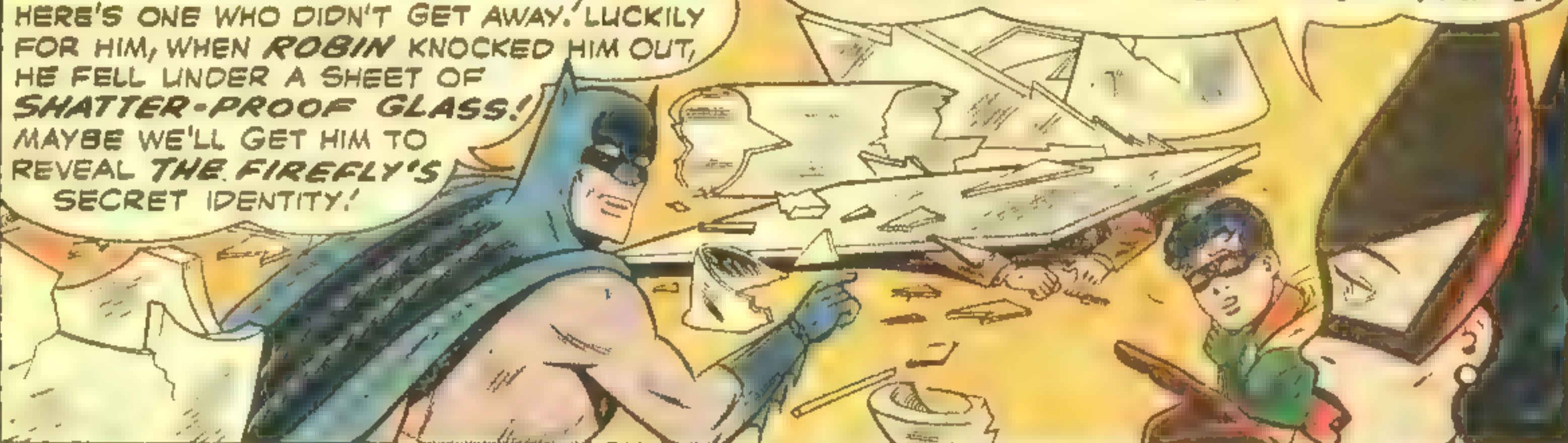
GREAT SCOTT! HE'S EMANATING SOUND VIBRATIONS THAT CAN SHATTER GLASS!



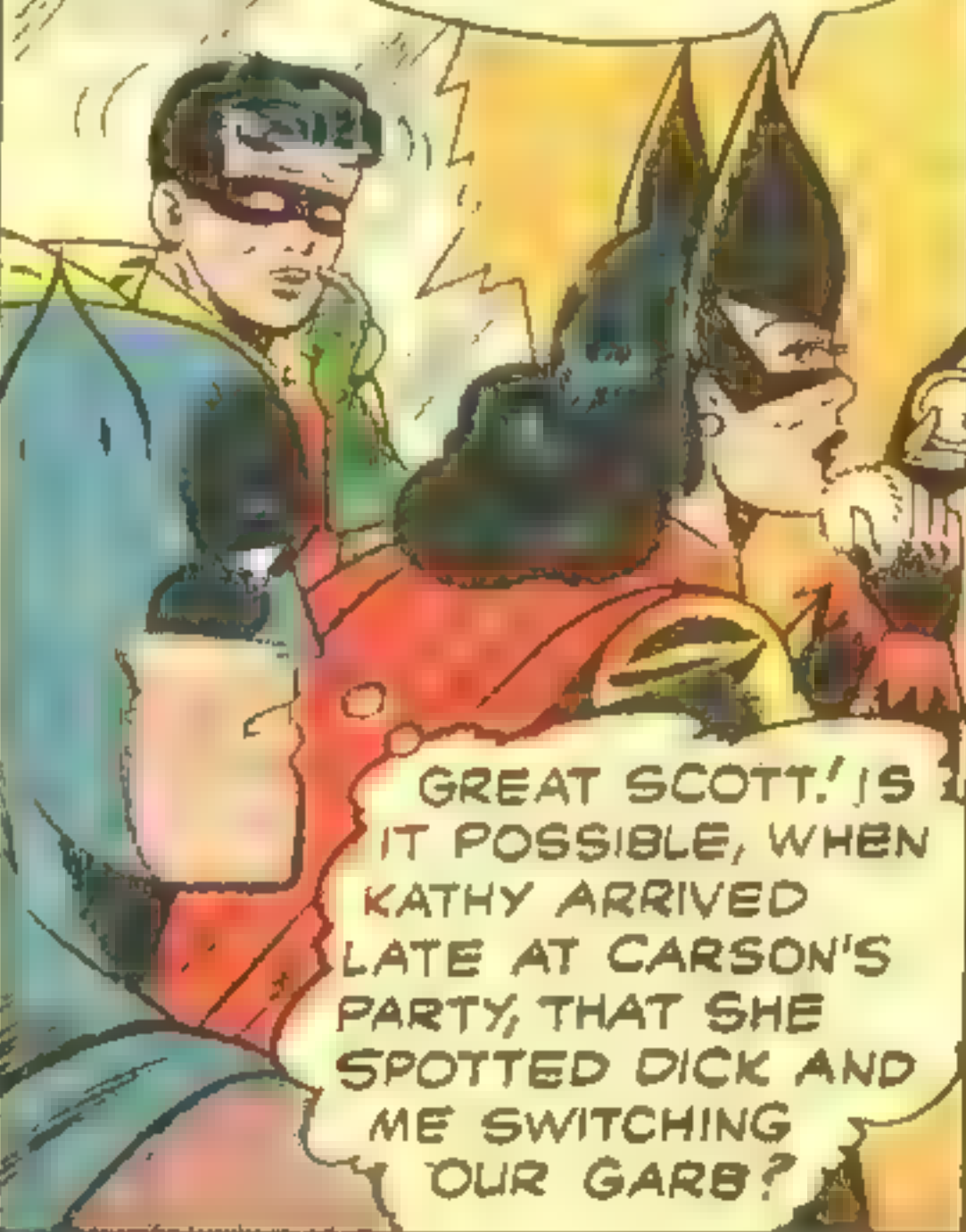
WHEN THE DANGER HAS PASSED...

HERE'S ONE WHO DIDN'T GET AWAY! LUCKILY FOR HIM, WHEN ROBIN KNOCKED HIM OUT, HE FELL UNDER A SHEET OF SHATTER-PROOF GLASS! MAYBE WE'LL GET HIM TO REVEAL THE FIREFLY'S SECRET IDENTITY!

PERHAPS, BATMAN--BUT THERE'S ONE SECRET IDENTITY I ALREADY KNOW... *YOURS!*



WHAT--? YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO CARELESS WHEN YOU SWITCH IDENTITIES! BYE-BYE... I'LL BE VISITING YOU SOON, AT YOUR MANSION!



GREAT SCOTT! IS IT POSSIBLE, WHEN KATHY ARRIVED LATE AT CARSON'S PARTY, THAT SHE SPOTTED DICK AND ME SWITCHING OUR GARB?

BACK IN THE BAT-CAVE, AFTER A FUTILE ATTEMPT TO GET THE CAPTURED CROOK TO TALK...

MAYBE KATHY'S ONLY BLUFFING-- TRYING TO TRICK ME INTO REVEALING MY IDENTITY! THE BEST WAY TO FIND OUT IS TO PAY HER A VISIT-- AS BRUCE WAYNE!

GOOD IDEA! AND DON'T FORGET YOUR RAIN-COAT... IT'S TEEMING OUTSIDE!

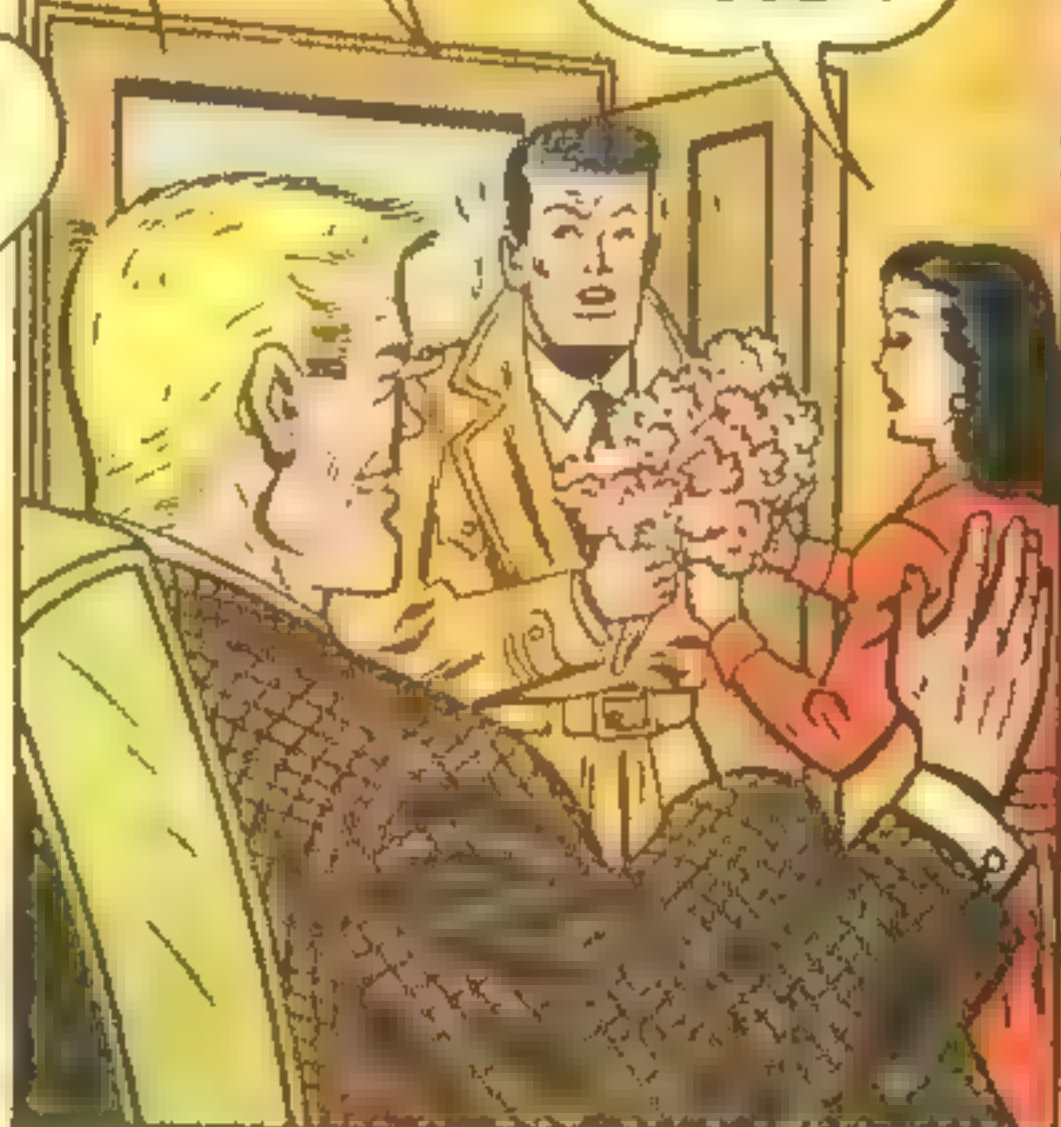


BUT WHEN BRUCE ARRIVES AT KATHY'S HOME...

HI, WAYNE!

TED CARSON!

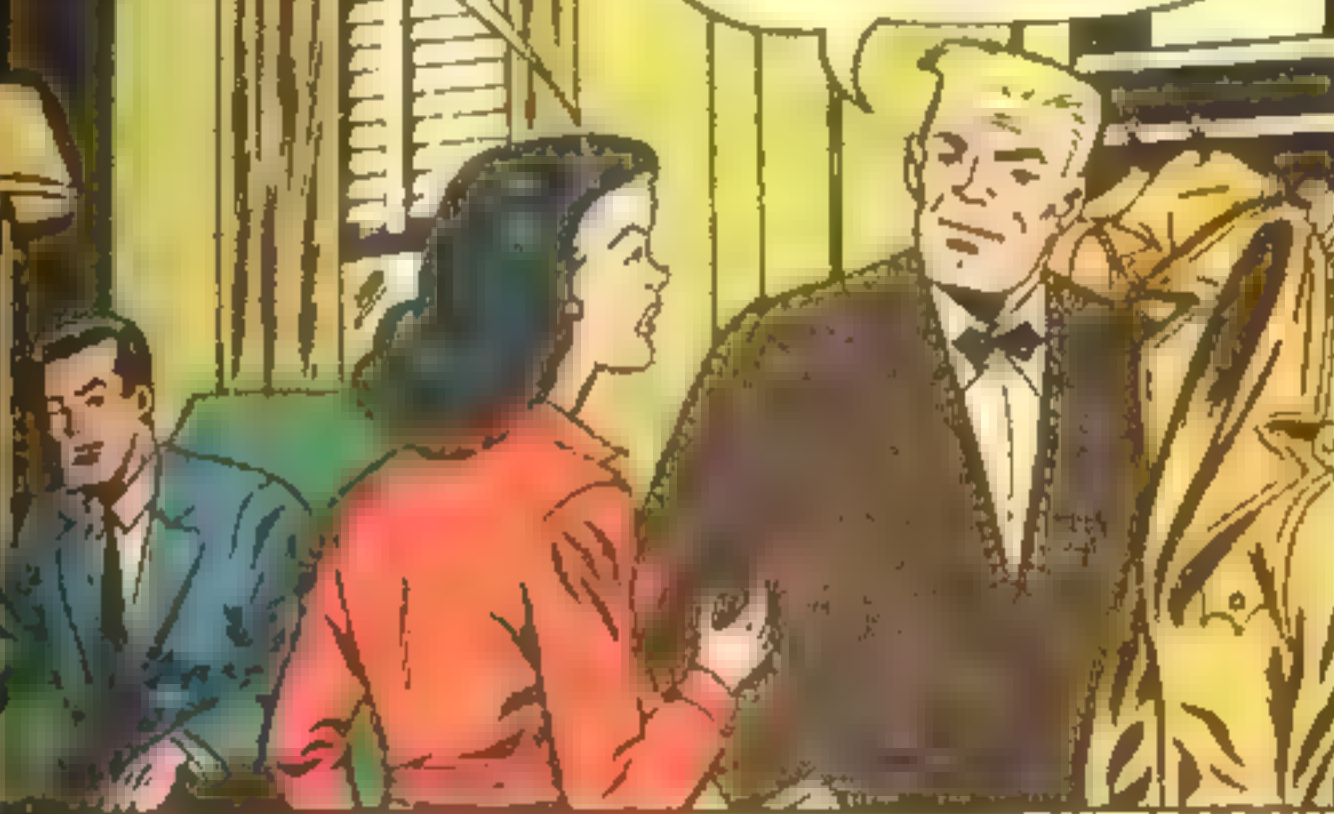
WHY, BRUCE-- FLOWERS FOR ME? HOW NICE OF YOU! HERE-- LET ME HANG YOUR RAINCOAT IN THE CLOSET!



AND A SHORT WHILE LATER, AS ONE SUITOR GETS UP TO LEAVE...

GOING ALREADY, TED DEAR? I THOUGHT WE MIGHT HAVE DINNER TOGETHER!

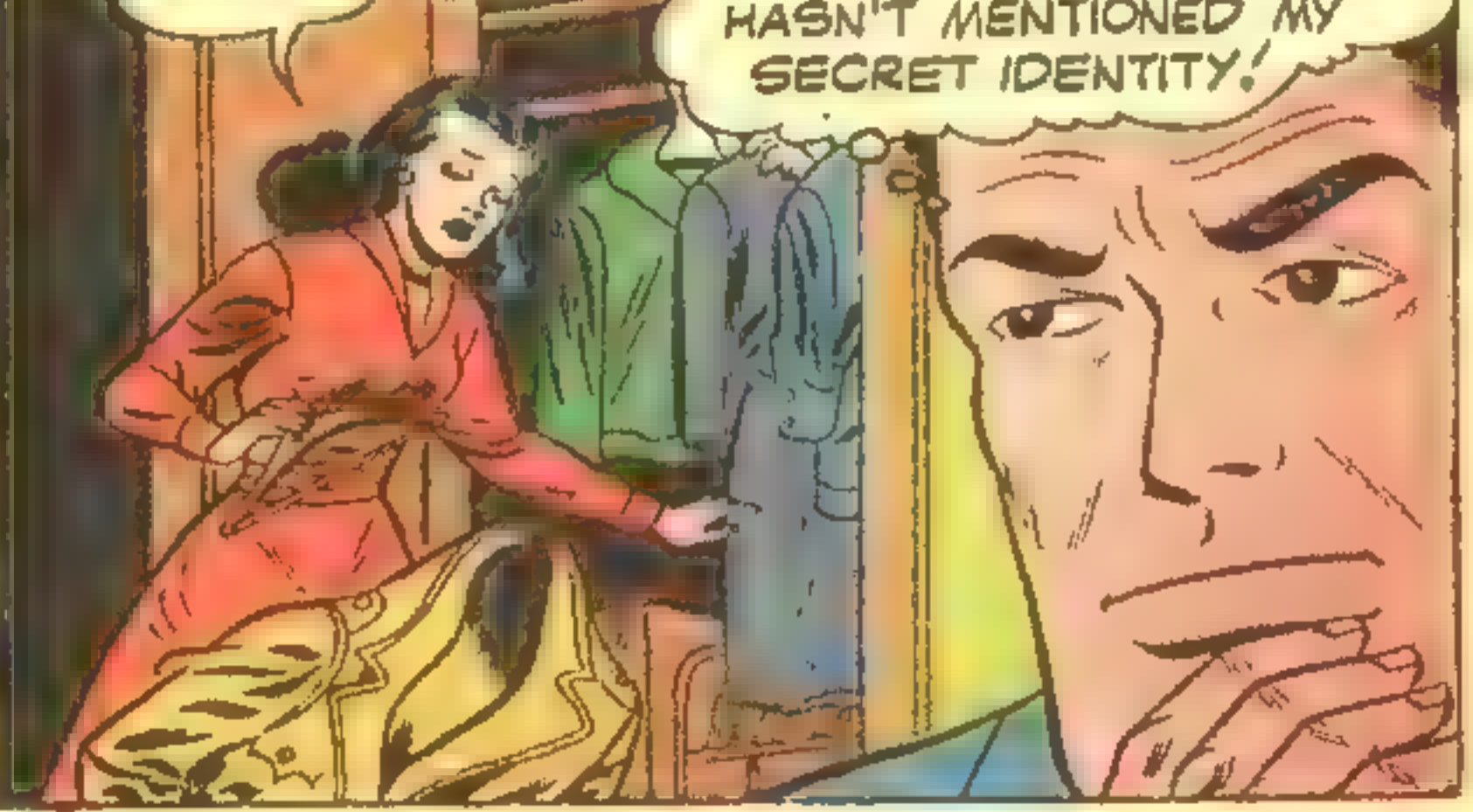
SORRY, KATHY-- I'VE GOT AN IMPORTANT BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT. LET BRUCE TAKE YOU TO DINNER!



BUT NO SOONER DOES TED DEPART THAN...

BRUCE, I'VE SUDDENLY DEVELOPED A HEADACHE! WOULD YOU PLEASE LEAVE?.. I--OH!... DROPPED YOUR COAT... SORRY!

A SUDDEN "HEADACHE"? GULP! IS SHE REALLY SO BORED WITH ME-- OR IS SHE JUST USING CARSON TO MAKE ME JEALOUS? AND SHE STILL HASN'T MENTIONED MY SECRET IDENTITY!



AFTER BRUCE HAS GONE...

POOR, DEAR BRUCE... I DO BELIEVE HE'S JEALOUS! HMM... THIS PAPER MUST HAVE FALLEN FROM HIS COAT WHEN I DROPPED IT BEFORE!



OH, DEAR... LOOK WHAT IT SAYS! I'D BETTER SWITCH TO MY BATWOMAN COSTUME AND GO TO BATMAN'S HOUSE AT ONCE!

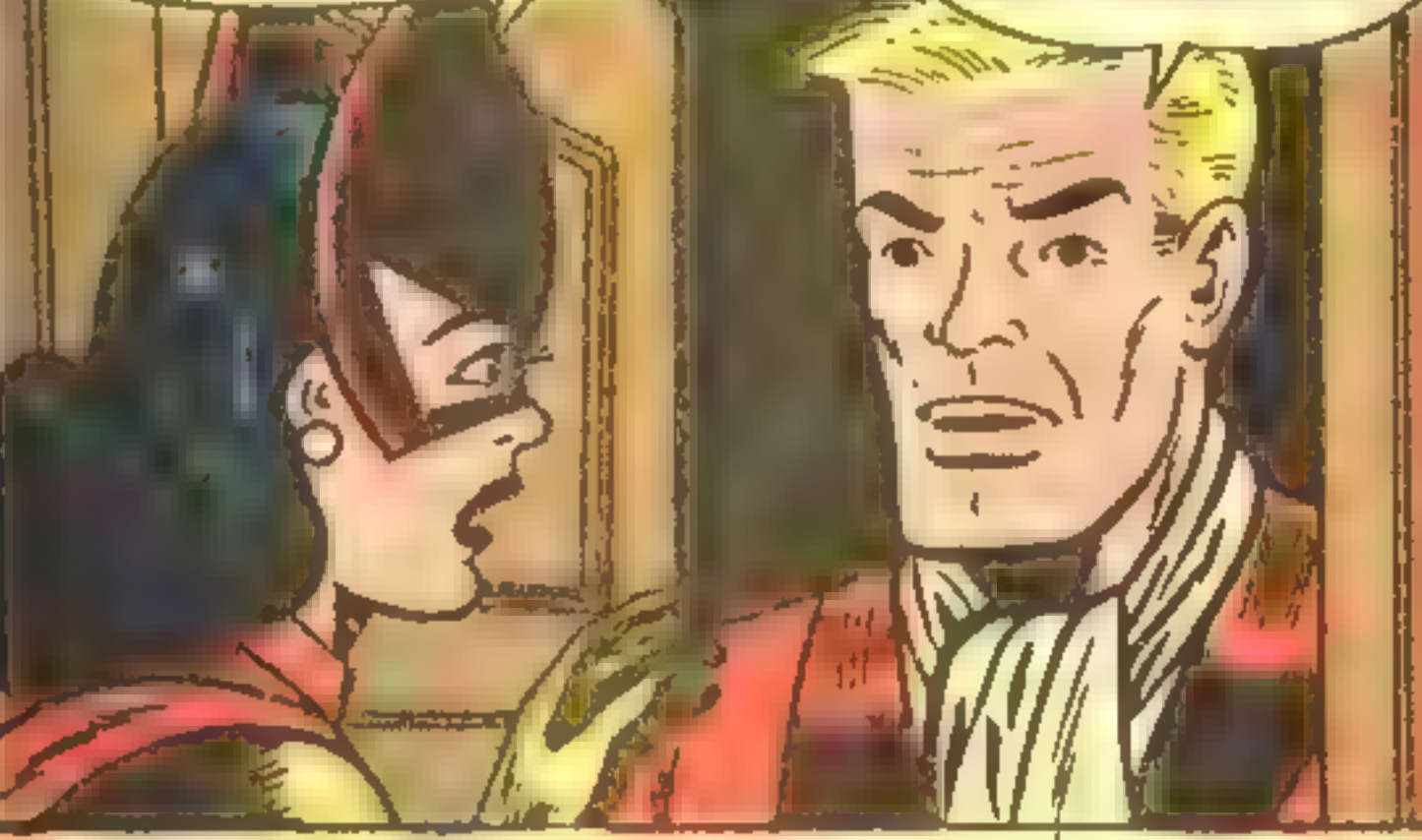


WHAT'S THIS? WILL BATWOMAN ACTUALLY GO TO BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME-- THE SECRET LAIR OF BATMAN?

THE ANSWER COMES WITHIN MINUTES, AS SHE ENTERS THE MANSION OF...

CARSON!... I CAN'T EXPLAIN HOW, BUT I KNOW YOU'RE BATMAN! LISTEN-- I KNOW WHERE WE CAN TRAP THE FIREFLY! SEND FOR ROBIN-- HURRY!

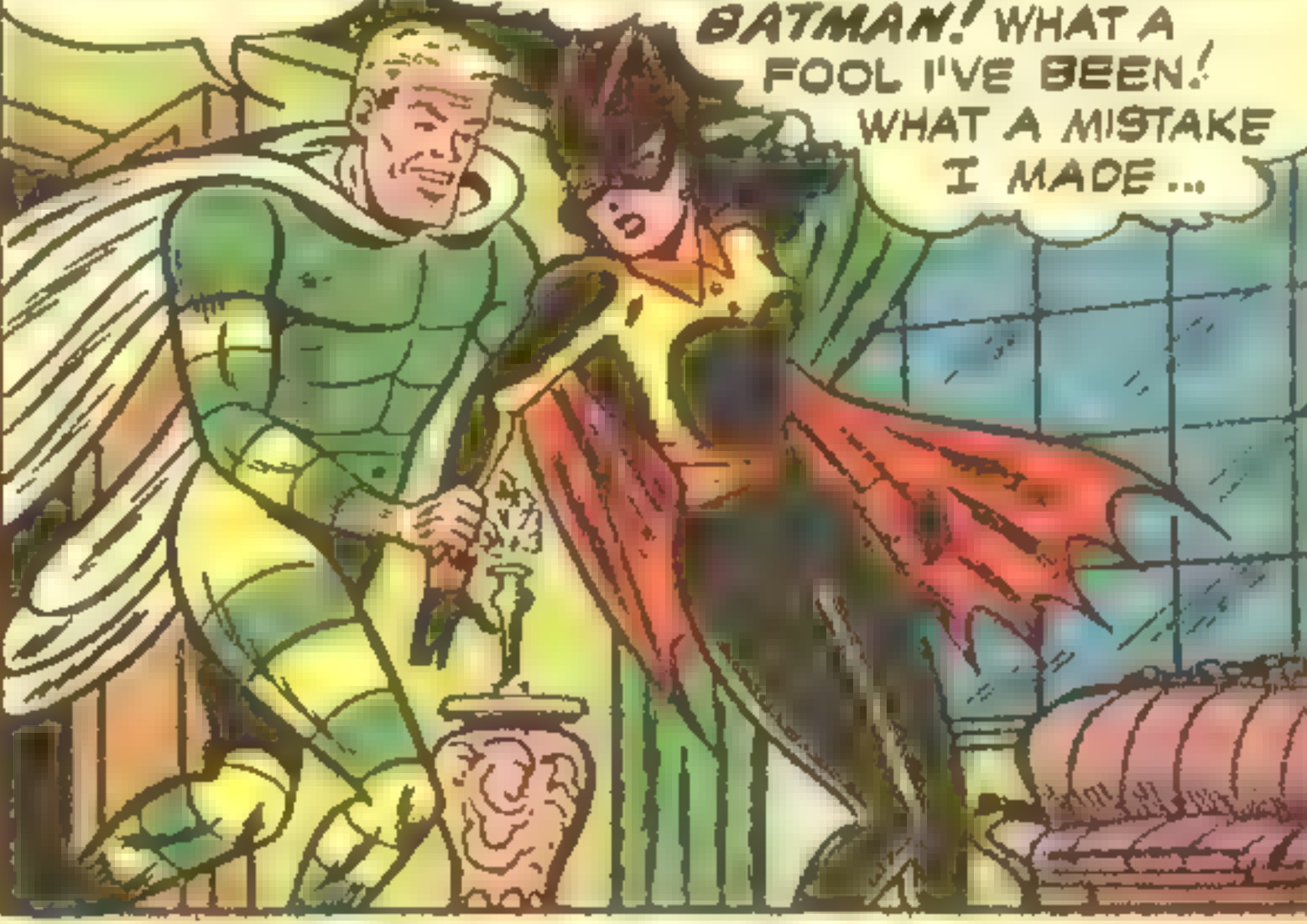
HUH? ER-- ALL RIGHT, BATWOMAN... WAIT HERE WHILE I CHANGE TO MY COSTUME!



AND MOMENTS LATER IT'S BATWOMAN'S TURN FOR A SURPRISE, AS...

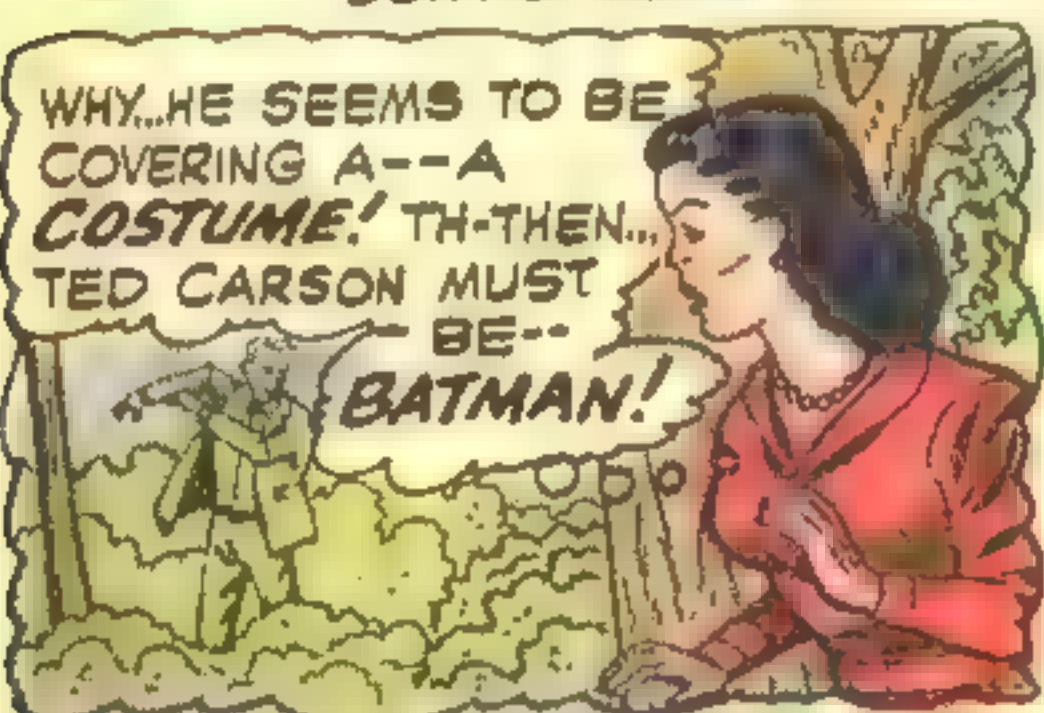
THIS IS MY COSTUME, LITTLE LADY!

C-CARSON IS... THE FIREFLY! AND I FELL IN LOVE WITH HIM BECAUSE I THOUGHT HE WAS BATMAN! WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN! WHAT A MISTAKE I MADE...





"...WHEN I ARRIVED AT CARSON'S GROUNDS, LAST NIGHT, AND SAW HIM FURTIVELY PUTTING ON HIS JACKET BEHIND SOME BRUSH!"



WHY...HE SEEMS TO BE COVERING A--A COSTUME! TH-THEN... TED CARSON MUST BE-- **BATMAN!**

ACTUALLY, CARSON "ROBBED" HIMSELF SO NO ONE WOULD EVER SUSPECT HE WAS **THE FIREFLY!** HE WAS COVERING HIS COSTUME TO REJOIN HIS GUESTS!

I'LL TIE YOU UP IN THE BASEMENT, AND DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH YOU WHEN I RETURN!



MEANWHILE, AT POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS, WHERE **BATMAN** USES HIS SCIENTIFIC CRIME-FIGHTING TECHNIQUE ON **THE FIREFLY'S** CAPTURED HENCHMAN...

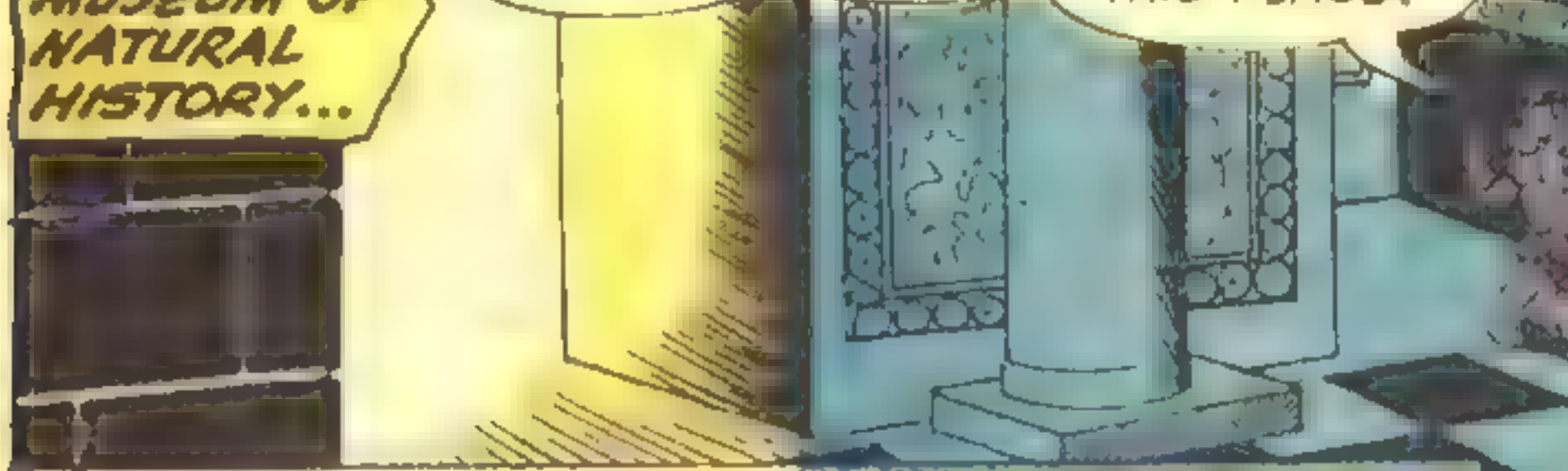
HEY--WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THAT-- THAT **VACUUM CLEANER?**

THERE MAY BE TELL-TALE DUST ON YOU, FROM THE PLACE YOU WERE CASING FOR **THE FIREFLY'S** NEXT ROBBERY! IF SO-- ANALYSIS OF THE DUST WILL IDENTIFY THAT PLACE!



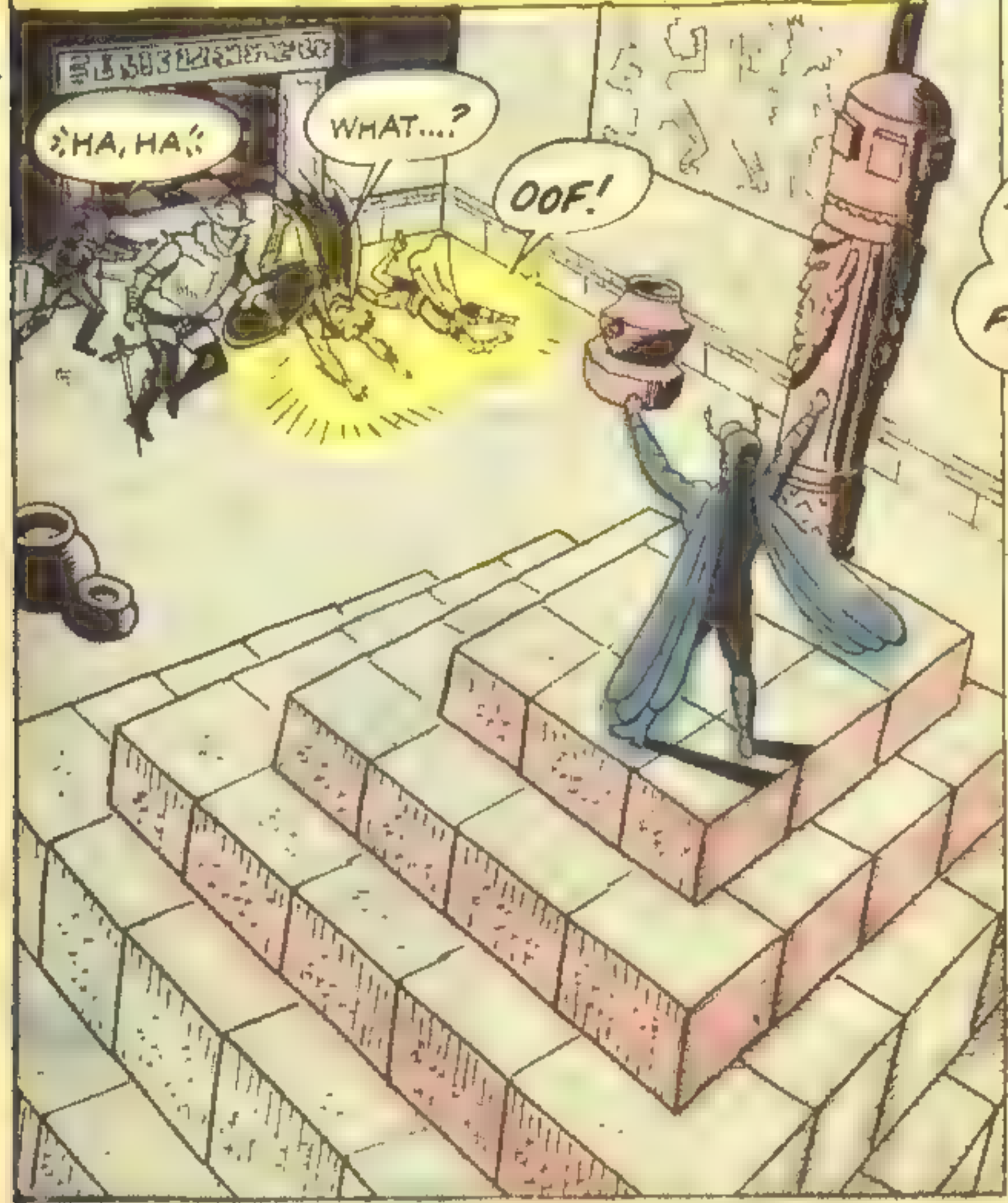
SURE ENOUGH, AWHILE LATER, IN THE **GOTHAM MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY...**

THAT DUST CONTAINED GRAINS OF THE UNIQUE MARBLE GRAVEL USED ON THE MUSEUM'S PATHWAYS... SO IT'S OBVIOUS **THE FIREFLY'S** HIRELING WAS CASING THIS PLACE!



YES--AND I'VE GOT A HUNCH **THE FIREFLY** IS AFTER THE SILVER RELICS THAT WERE RECENTLY PLACED IN THE **MEXICAN ROOM!**

INDEED, AS THEY ENTER THE MEXICAN EXHIBIT, WITH ITS RELICS OF SPANISH CONQUEST...



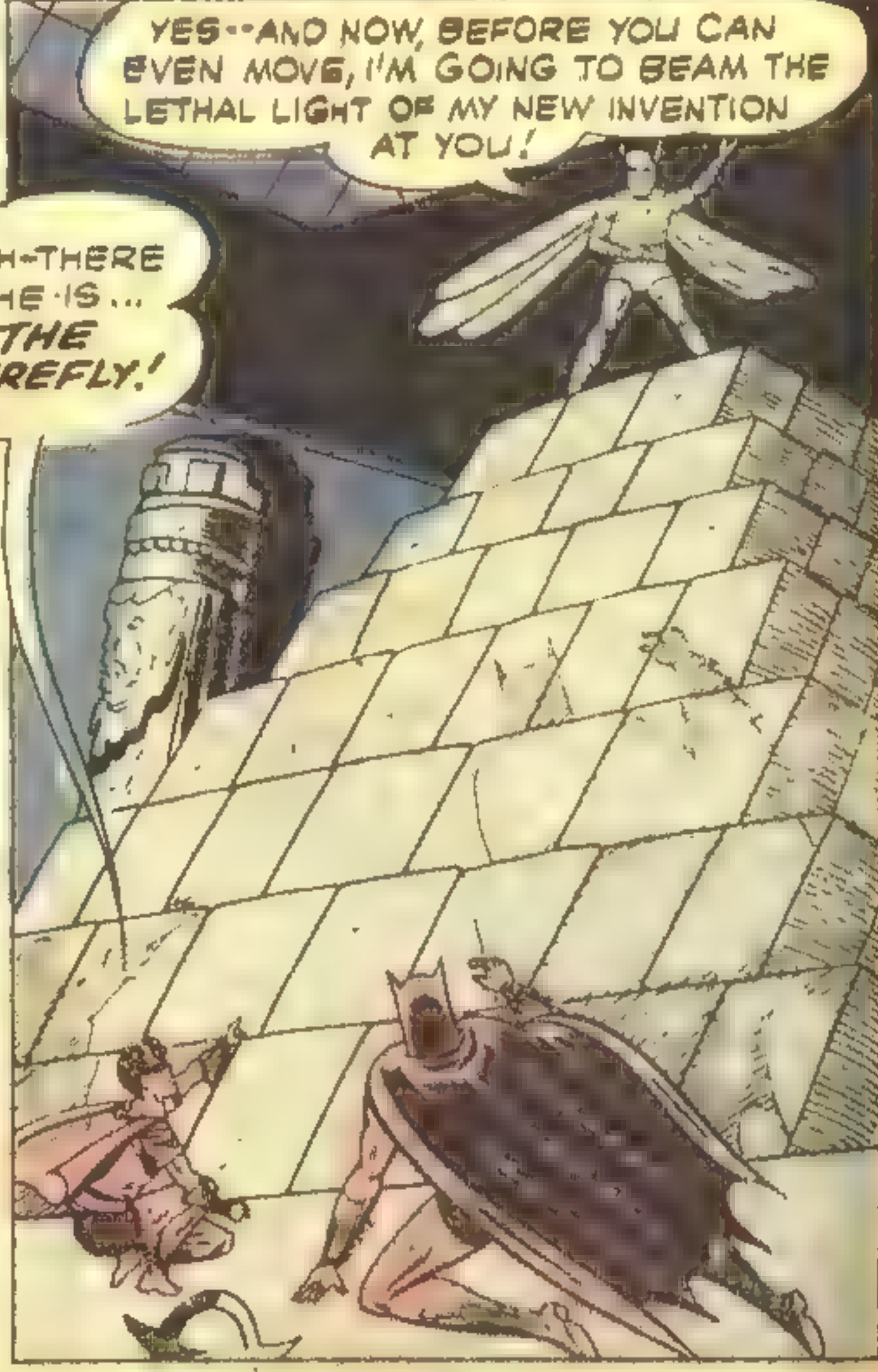
HA, HA!

WHAT....?

OOF!

TH-THERE HE IS... **THE FIREFLY!**

YES--AND NOW, BEFORE YOU CAN EVEN MOVE, I'M GOING TO BEAM THE LETHAL LIGHT OF MY NEW INVENTION AT YOU!



BUT EVEN AS A DEADLY BEAM FLARES FORTH, A PROTECTIVE SHIELD COMES HURTLING FROM THE HANDS OF...

**BATWOMAN!**

SURPRISED I'M FREE? I MANAGED TO GET MY COMPACT OUT OF MY **UTILITY PURSE**-- BROKE THE GLASS-- AND SAWED THROUGH THE ROPES!

AND BEFORE THE CROOKS CAN RECOVER FROM THEIR SURPRISE...

EEYOW!

PERFECT SHOT, **ROBIN**... I'LL PUT THE HANDCUFFS ON HIM!

CLANK!

WHILE **BATMAN**, USING A LANCE AS A VAULTING POLE, GOES HURTLING UPWARD, AND...

OOF!

THIS IS LIGHTS OUT, **FIREFLY!**

AND SO, AFTER JAILING THE CAPTURED PAIR...

CARSON CONFESSED THAT HIS FAMILY GOLD MINE HAD PETERED OUT, AND HE NEEDED MONEY FOR GAMBLING DEBTS--SO HE TURNED TO CRIME! AND I THOUGHT HE WAS YOU, **BATMAN!**

YES-- **BATWOMAN** EXPLAINED IT WAS CARSON SHE SAW CHANGING CLOTHES, NOT ME...SO MY IDENTITY IS STILL A SECRET!

BUT WHY DID YOU THINK **BRUCE WAYNE** WAS **THE FIRE-FLY**?

BECAUSE THE PAPER THAT DROPPED FROM THE RAINCOAT I GAVE HIM CONTAINED **THE FIREFLY'S** PLANS TO ROB THE MUSEUM! I'D MISTAKENLY GIVEN **BRUCE'S** COAT TO CARSON-- BECAUSE BOTH RAINCOATS LOOKED EXACTLY ALIKE!

THE NEXT DAY, WHEN **BRUCE WAYNE** DATES **KATHY**...

COME TO THINK OF IT, **BRUCE** DOES HAVE THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR **BATMAN!** HE'S ATHLETIC, RICH AND--OH, THAT'S SILLY! I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE THAT MISTAKE AGAIN!

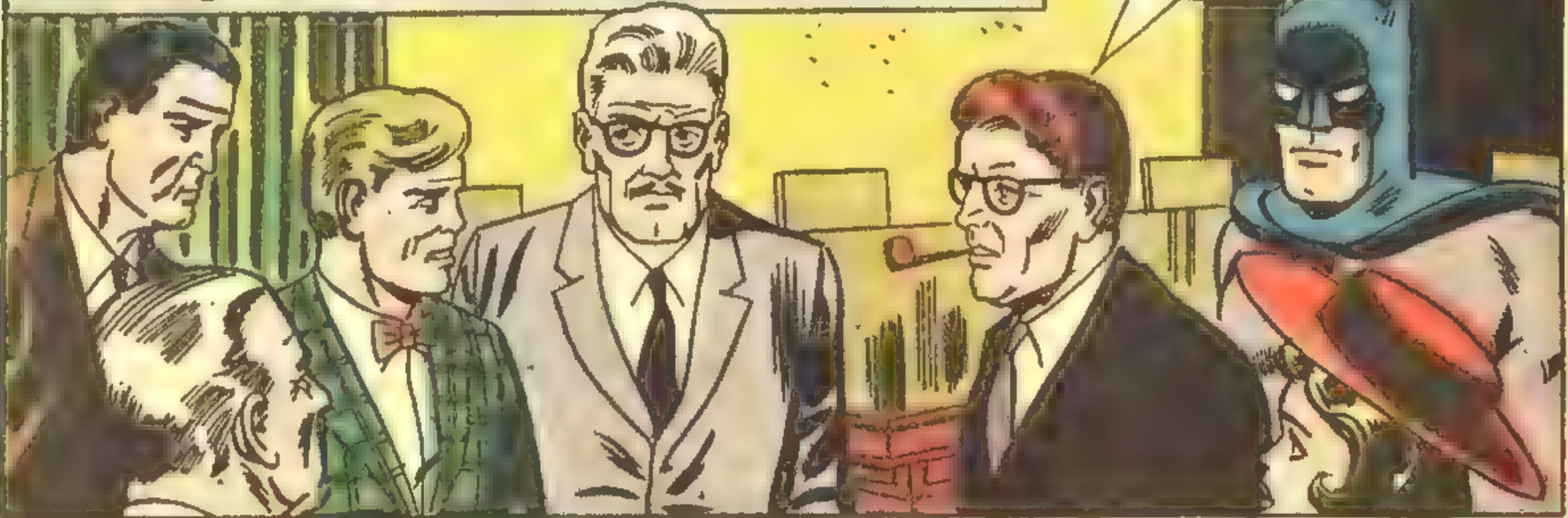


THIS TIME, YOU'RE RIGHT, **BATWOMAN**-- BUT YOU DON'T KNOW IT!

THE END

NEXT... KAYE DAYE, WHO, LIKE BATMAN, BELONGS TO THE MYSTERY ANALYSTS OF GOTHAM CITY. IN ONE CASE, A FRIEND SECRETLY REPLACED ANALYST MARTIN TELLMAN'S ART MASTERPIECE COPIES WITH THE ORIGINALS! BUT SOMEHOW, CRIMINALS FOUND OUT...

HOW DID THOSE CROOKS SUDDENLY DISCOVER THE VALUE OF THOSE PAINTINGS?



I DON'T KNOW! SURELY YOU'RE NOT ACCUSING ANY OF US OF ATTEMPTING TO STEAL THE PAINTINGS--?

CERTAINLY NOT! BUT-- WHO ELSE IS THERE THAT KNEW THEIR TRUE WORTH?

HAVERFORD MIMMS IS ABOVE SUSPICION!

I WOULDN'T TRY AND STEAL MY OWN PROPERTY!

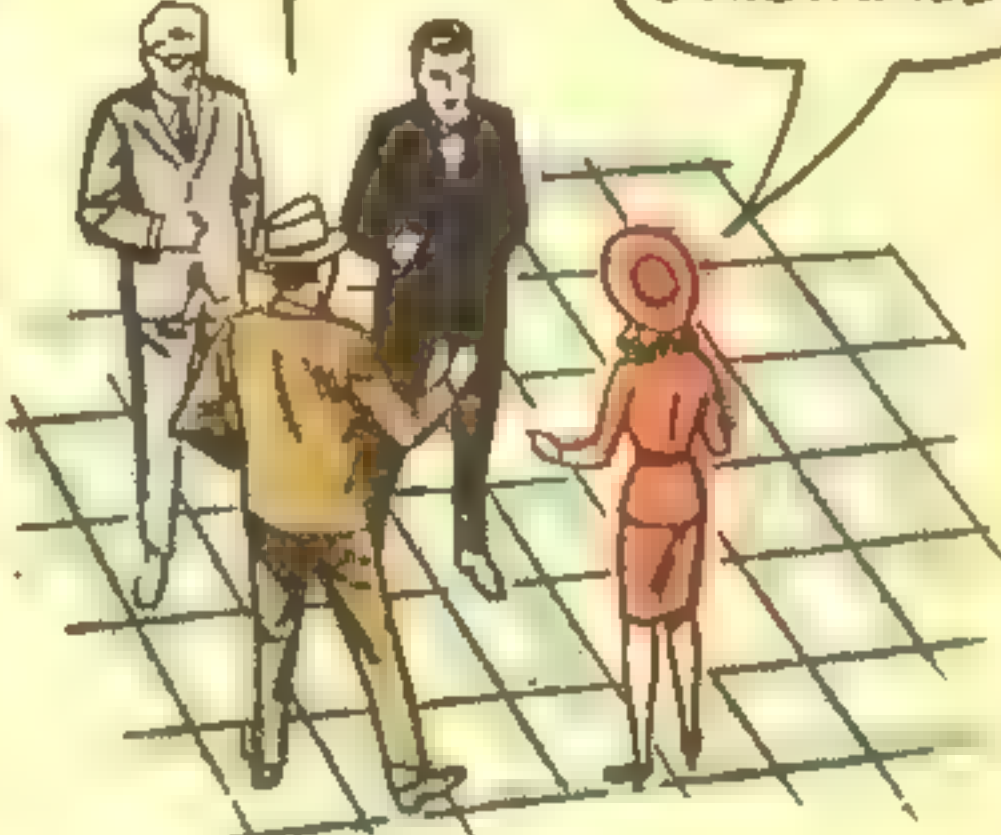
WAIT--WHAT DID RONALD DO WITH MARTIN'S COPIES AFTER HE REPLACED THEM WITH THE ORIGINALS?

I SOLD THEM TO THE GOTHAM ART CURIO SHOP--

THE GOTHAM ART CURIO SHOP? WHY, THAT'S WHERE I BOUGHT THE COPIES-- FROM THE OWNER JOHN BURELSON!

AH! NOW SUPPOSE THIS BURELSON LEARNED

FROM THE ART JOURNALS THAT REGINALD STONE-FELLOW HAD PURCHASED THE GENUINE PAINTINGS-- SHORTLY AFTER HE HIMSELF HAD SOLD MARTY THE COPIES?



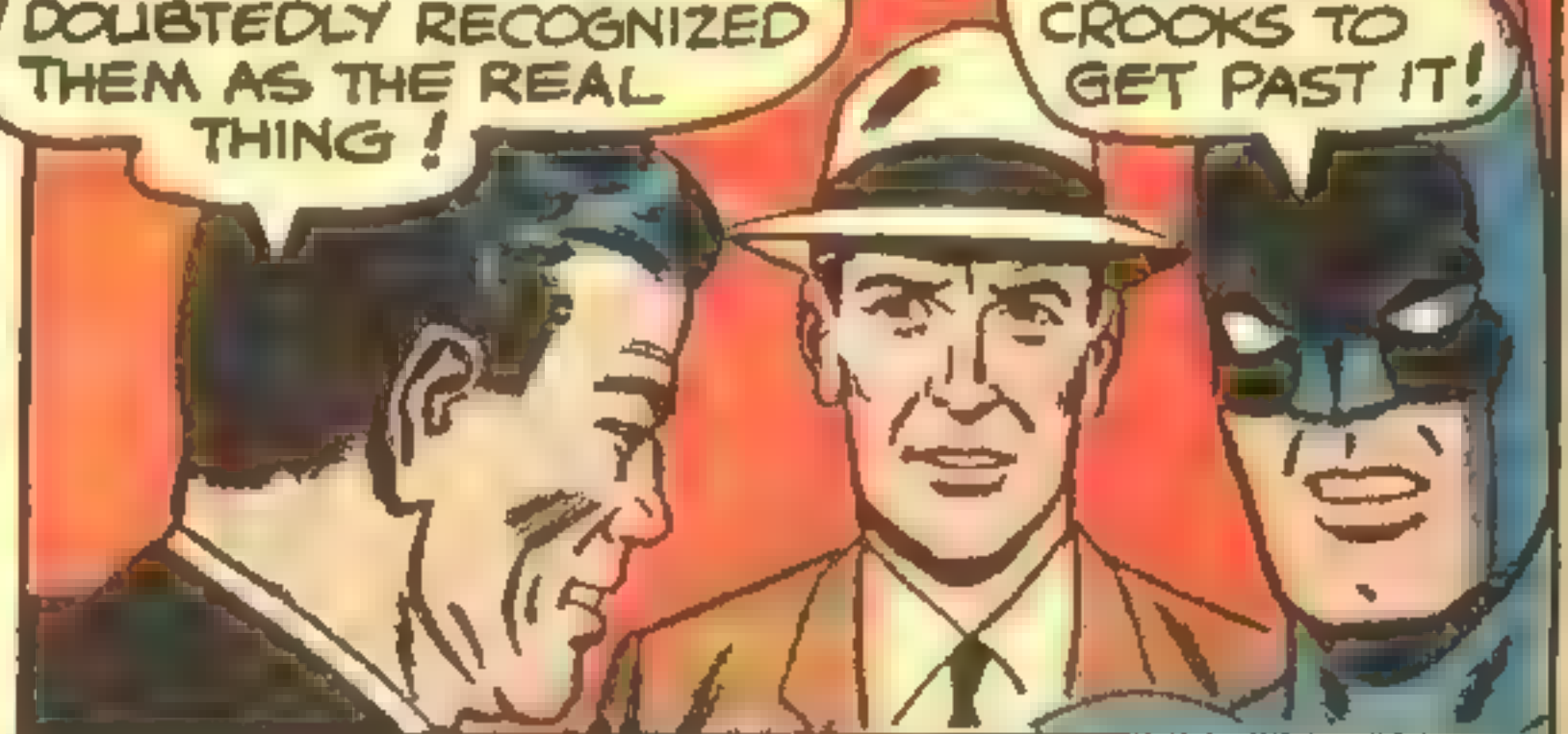
OVER THE YEARS, HE WOULD HAVE RECOGNIZED A PATTERN! THUS, WHEN THE COPIES WHICH HE HAD SOLD MARTY WERE RETURNED TO HIM, ONLY DAYS AFTER EACH ORIGINAL HAD BEEN PURCHASED--

--WHICH HE RECOGNIZED AS THE VERY SAME COPIES HE SOLD TO MARTY-- THROUGH HIS SPECIAL IDENTIFICATION MARK-- HE'D HAVE BECOME SUSPICIOUS!

SAY, I JUST REMEMBERED THAT BURLESON HIMSELF DELIVERED THE LAST COPY I BOUGHT! HE MUST HAVE SEEN MY OTHER PAINTINGS AND UNDOUBTEDLY RECOGNIZED THEM AS THE REAL THING!

BUT WHY WOULD HE HIRE A GANG TO ROB FOR HIM--?

--BECAUSE HE SPOTTED THE INTRICATE BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEM MARTY HAD PUT IN HIS HOUSE! HE NEEDED PROFESSIONAL CROOKS TO GET PAST IT!



THANKS TO KAYE'S DEDUCTIONS, THE ART THIEVES WERE ROUNDED UP.

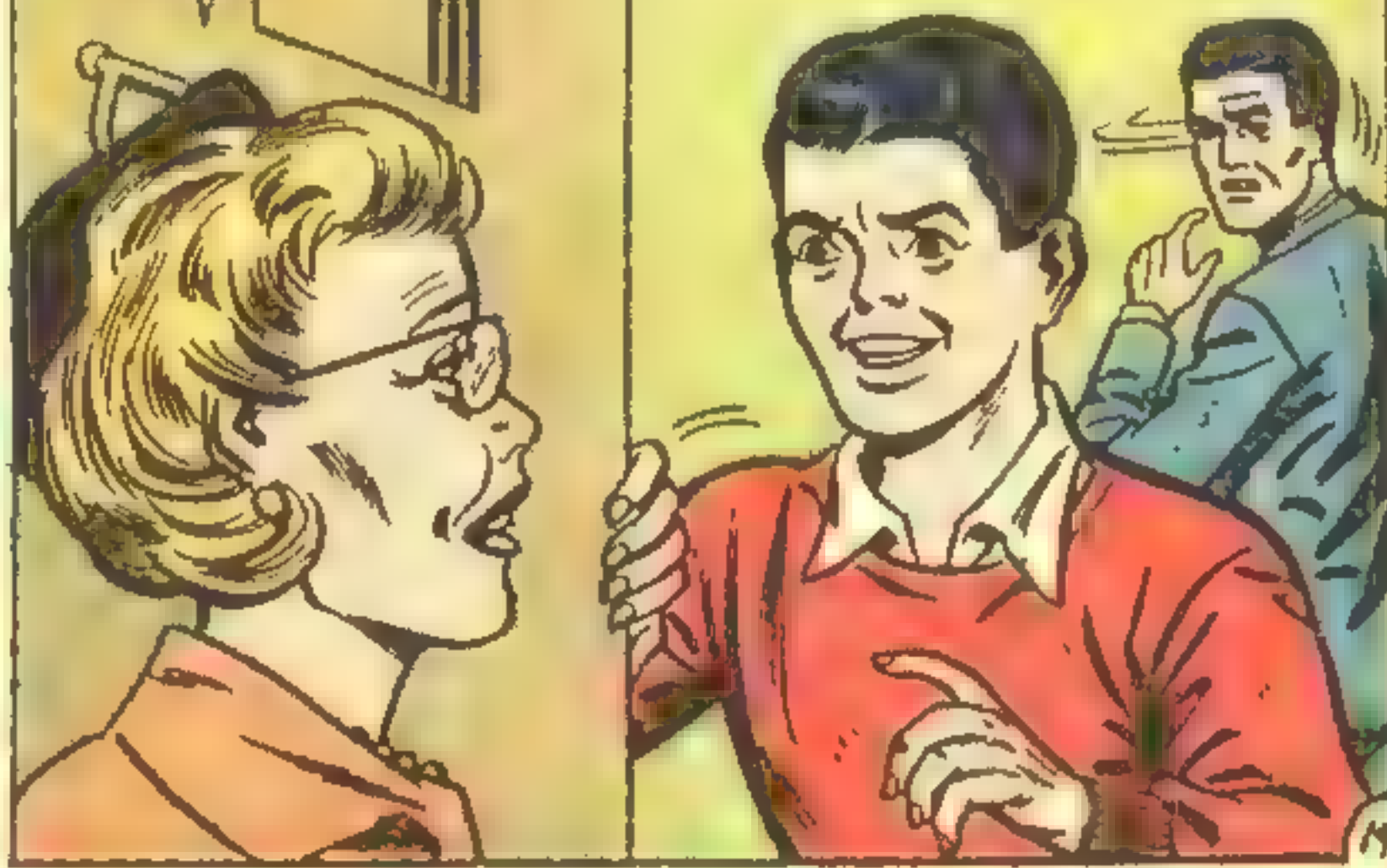
ANOTHER WOMAN CAME INTO THE DYNAMIC DUO'S LIVES WHEN ALFRED, THE WAYNE BUTLER, WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED...

SOMEONE AT THE FRONT DOOR!  
I WONDER WHO IT CAN BE  
AT THIS HOUR?



DICK --  
DICK --  
MY POOR LITTLE  
NEPHEW!

AUNT  
HARRIET!



WHEN I HEARD OF ALFRED'S  
DEATH, I KNEW YOU'D NEED  
SOMEBODY TO TAKE CARE OF  
YOU -- SO I'VE DECIDED TO  
LOOK AFTER YOU BOTH...

B-BUT  
AUNT  
HARRIET...



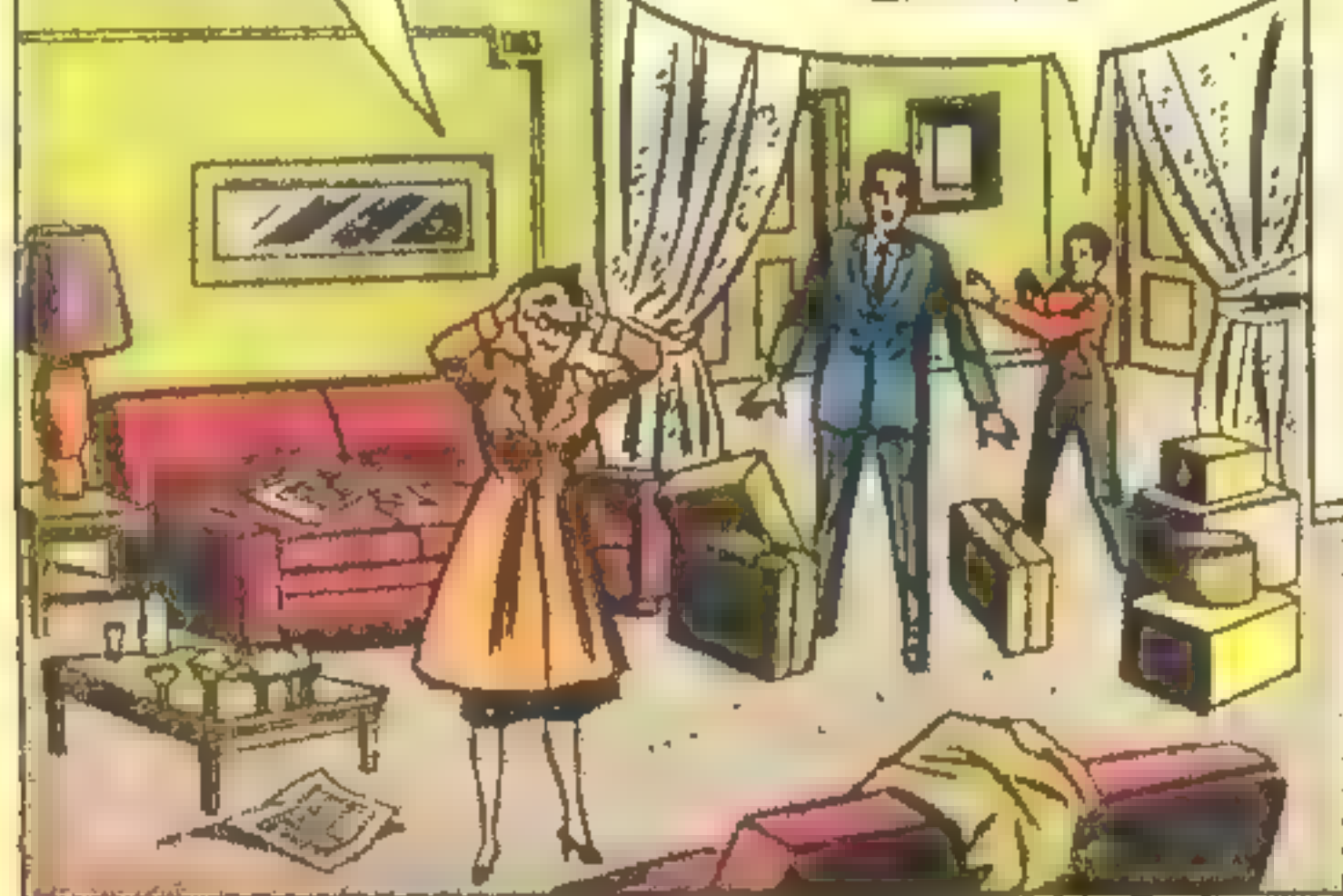
YOU YOUNGSTERS ARE  
SO HELPLESS YOU'LL  
NEED SOMEONE TO  
SEE TO IT THAT YOU  
TAKE CARE OF YOUR  
HEALTH!

"YOUNGSTERS"?  
BUT I'M A  
GROWN MAN...



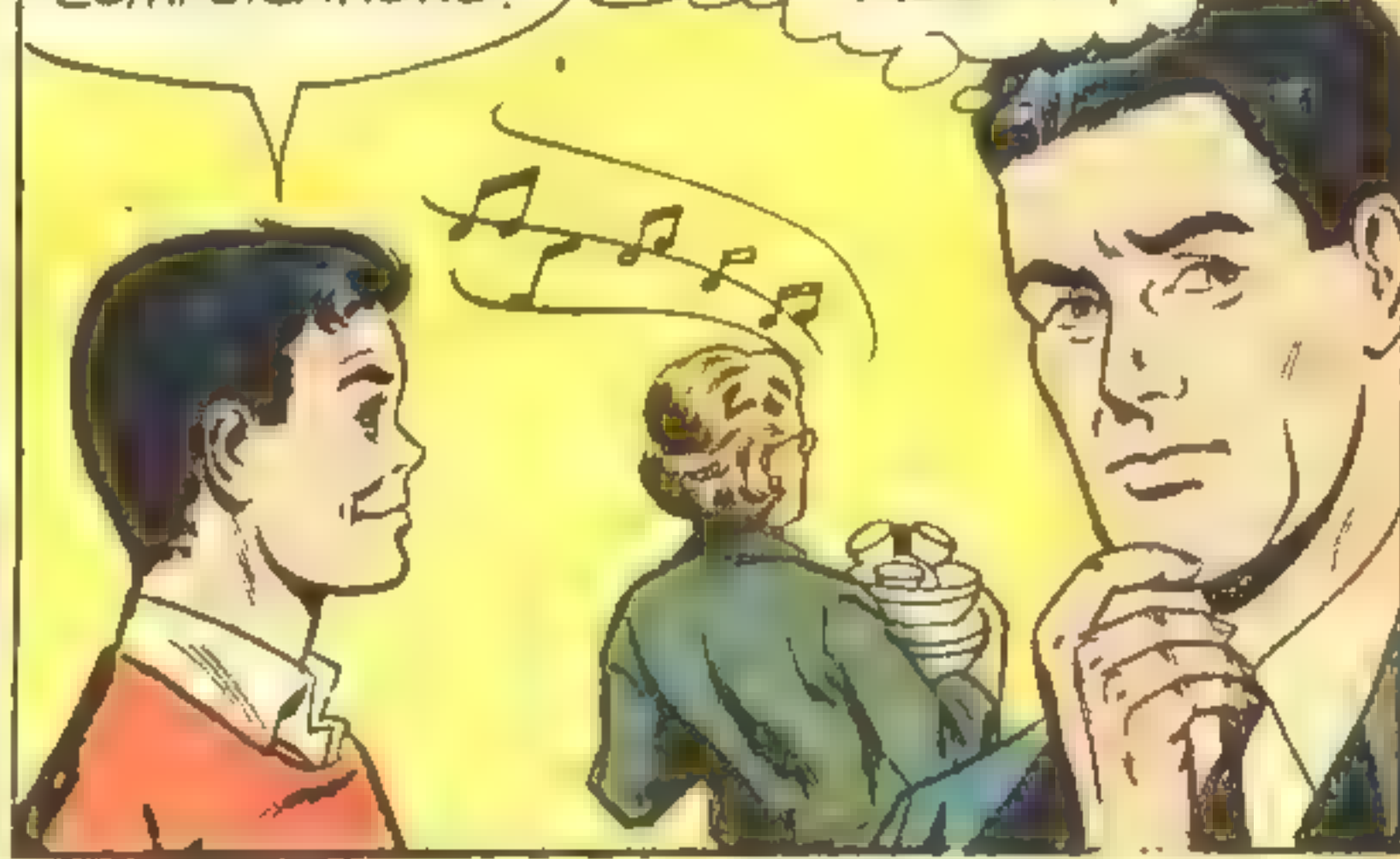
Tch - Tch! WHY  
MUST LITTLE  
BOYS ALWAYS  
BE SO UNTIDY?

IT'S NO USE, BRUCE!  
AUNT HARRIET STILL  
THINKS OF US AS  
HELPLESS BOYS!  
SHE'S HERE FOR  
GOOD!



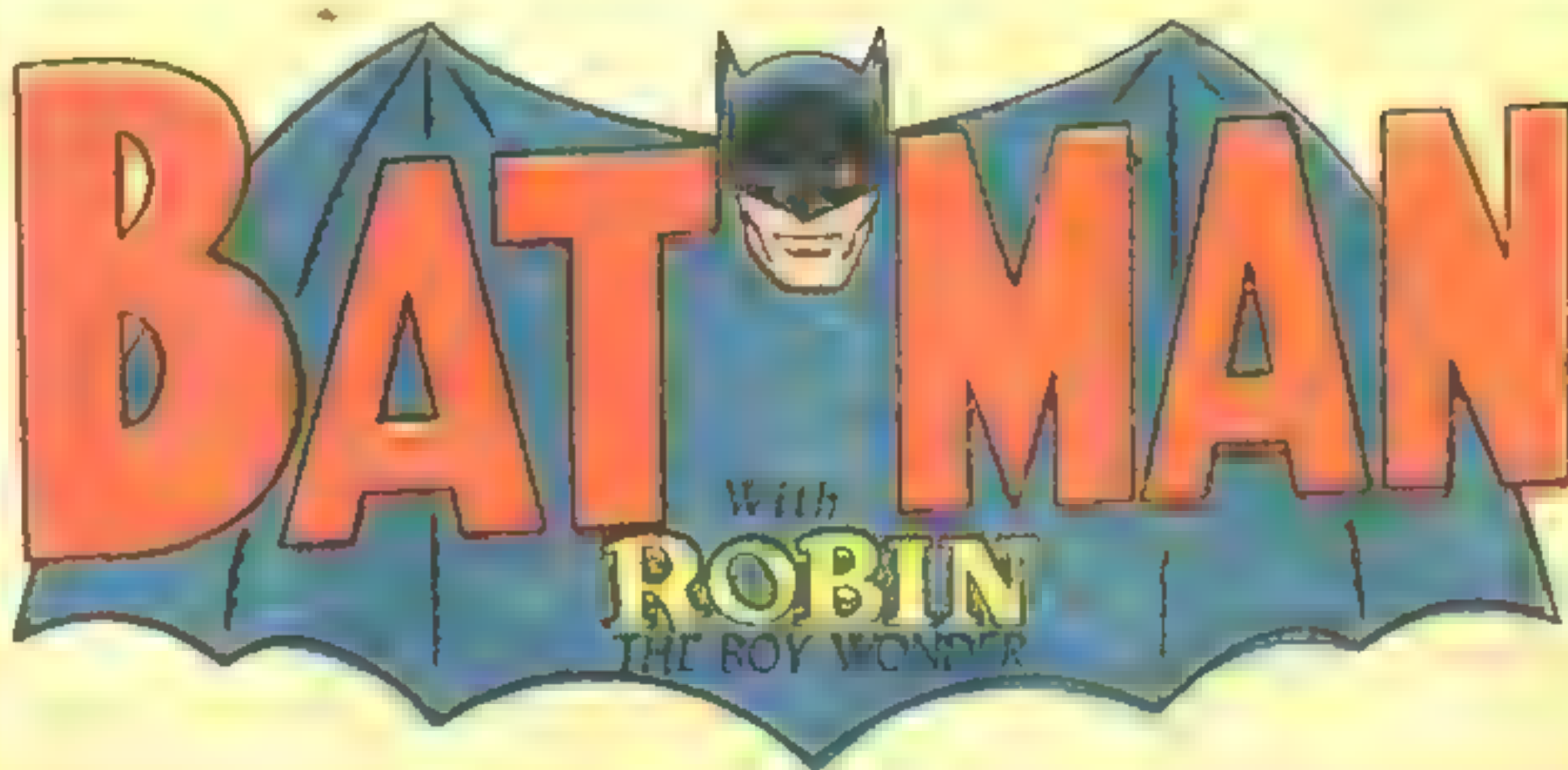
HAVING AUNT  
HARRIET  
AROUND IS  
GOING TO  
CAUSE SOME  
COMPLICATIONS!

YES, INDEED! ESPECIALLY  
HOW TO ACCOUNT FOR OUR  
ABSENCE FROM HOME --  
WHEN WE'RE OUT ON A  
CASE AS BATMAN AND  
ROBIN!

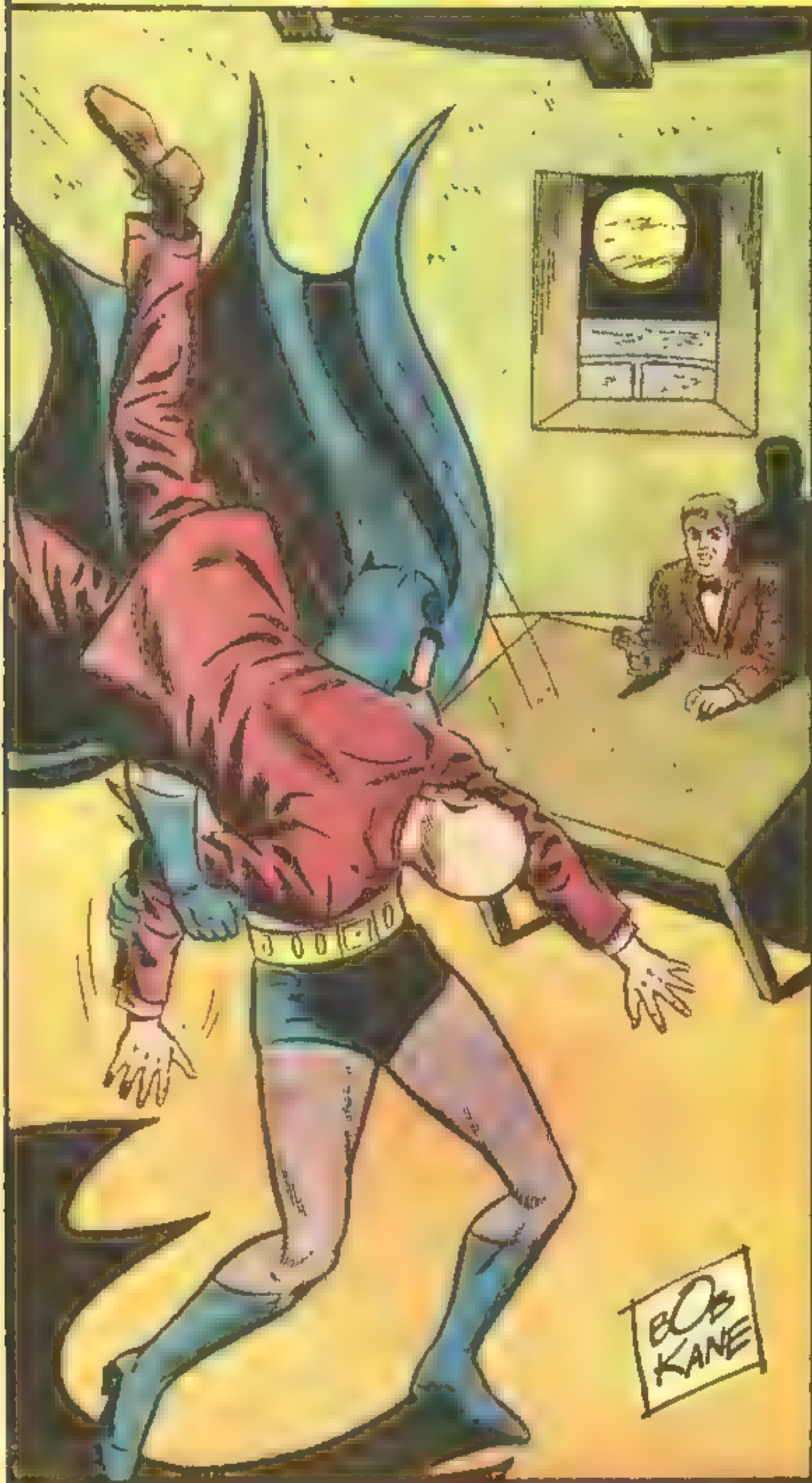


**PATRICIA POWELL** WAS THE DAUGHTER OF ONE OF GOTHAM CITY'S FINEST DETECTIVES, AND WAS DETERMINED TO FOLLOW IN HIS FOOTSTEPS--AS A **POLICEWOMAN!**

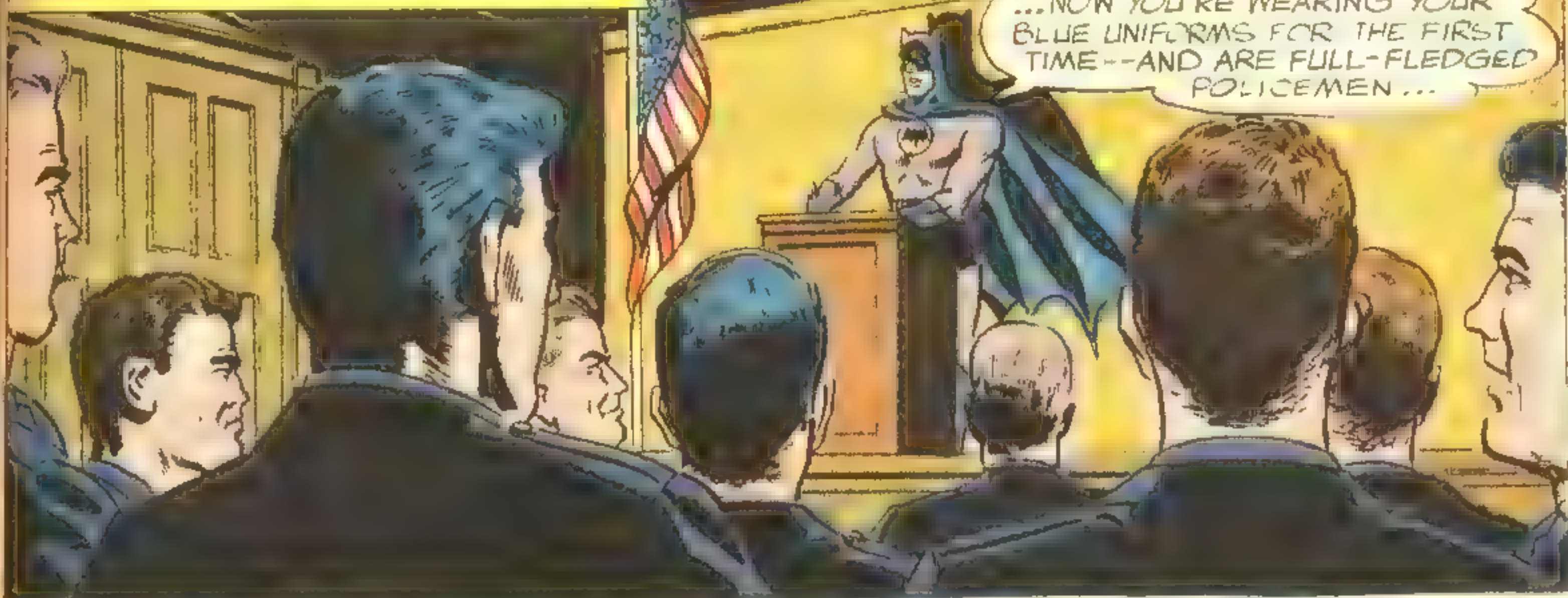
BUT SHE SECRETLY FEARED THAT SOMETHING WOULD THROW HER OFF GUARD--INTERFERE WITH HER WORK--THREATEN TO MAKE HER A FAILURE! NOW, ON HER VERY FIRST CASE--WITH **BATMAN** AS A PARTNER--SHE IS ON THE VERGE OF FINDING THE SURPRISING SOLUTION TO...



# THE DILEMMA OF THE DETECTIVE'S DAUGHTER!



THIS IS THE ANNUAL GRADUATION EXERCISES OF GOTHAM CITY'S POLICE ACADEMY, WHERE --AS FITTING-- THE GUEST SPEAKER IS THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE --**BATMAN!**



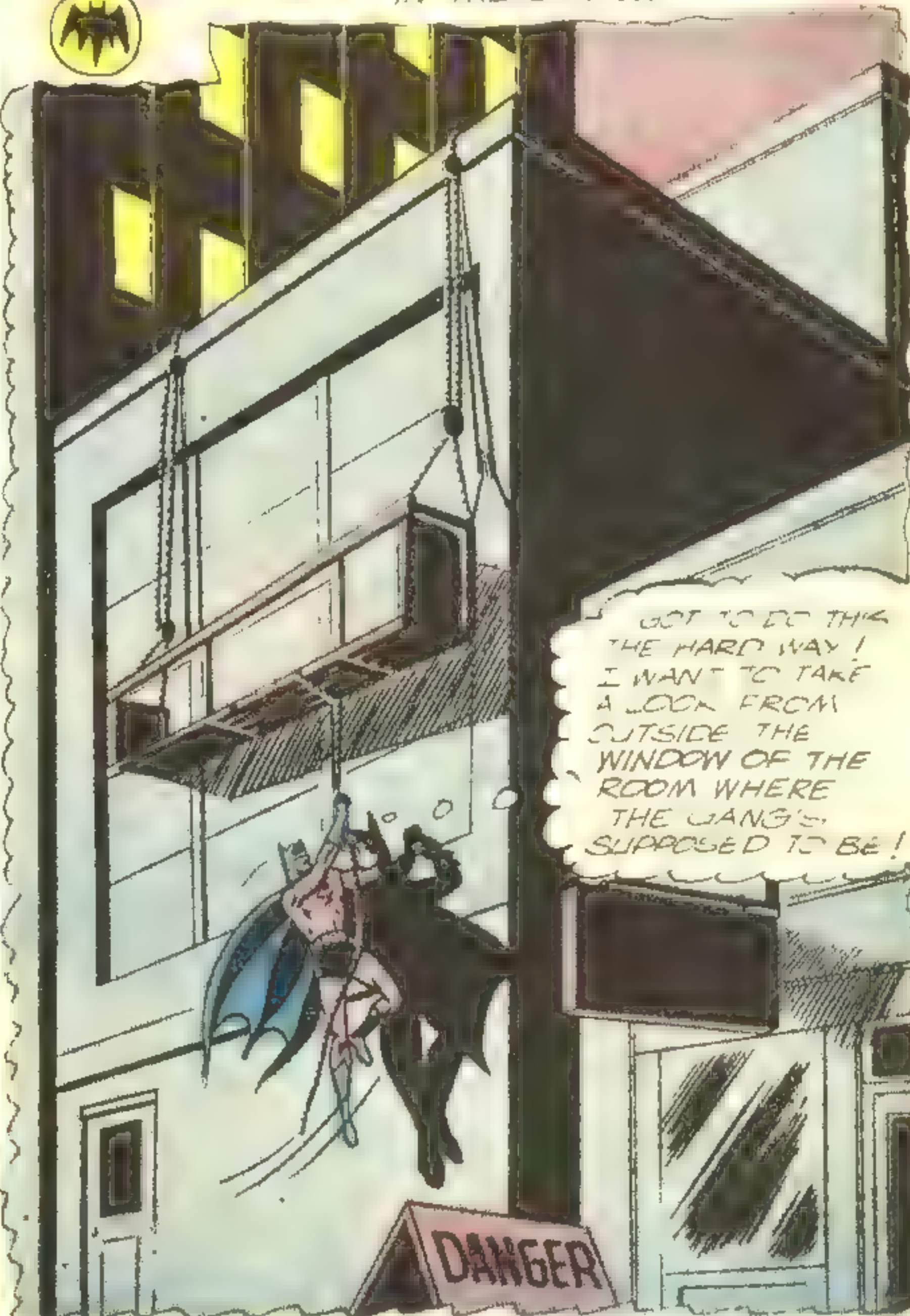
...NOW YOU'RE WEARING YOUR BLUE UNIFORMS FOR THE FIRST TIME--AND ARE FULL-FLEDGED POLICEMEN...

...AND ARE NO LONGER PROBATIONARIES... **RECRUITS**--OR, IN ACADEMY JARGON-- "PROBIES" OR "BUFFALOES"--SO YOU'LL HAVE MUCH TO DO BESIDES LISTEN TO SPEECHES! I'LL MAKE THIS BRIEF!



"AS SOMETIMES OCCURS, ROBIN AND I WERE SPLIT UP WHILE CHECKING TWO POSSIBLE HIDE-OUTS OF A HI-TALKING GANG AND I FIRST HAD TO DO SOME ROPE-CLIMBING--AS **YOU** PRACTICED IN THE GYM..."

I WANT TO STRESS THE VALUE OF YOUR **PHYSICAL FITNESS** TRAINING, WHICH I CAN BEST DO BY RECOUNTING ONE OF MY OWN CASES!



GOT TO DO THIS THE HARD WAY! I WANT TO TAKE A LOOK FROM OUTSIDE THE WINDOW OF THE ROOM WHERE THE GANG'S SUPPOSED TO BE!

DANGER

"REACHING THE FIRST LEDGE, I RACED TOWARD A 14-FOOT WALL..."



"I LEAPED, HITTING THE WALL WITH MY FEET--JUST AS YOU DID IN TRAINING, WHEN YOU SCALED A MOCK WALL ON THE HAZARD COURSE..."



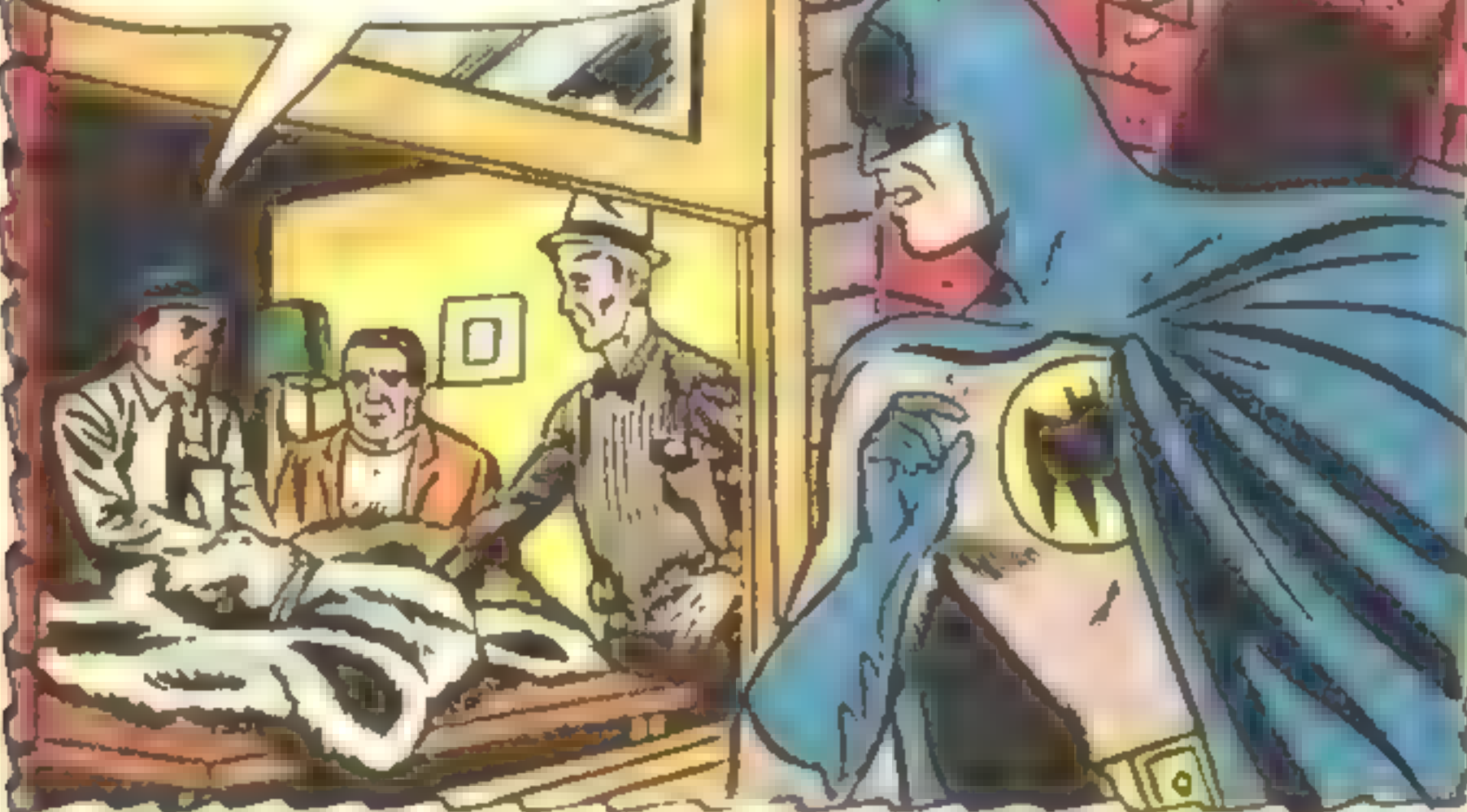
"THIS JUMP PROVIDED THE SPRING THAT CARRIED ME TO THE TOP--A MANEUVER ONLY A TRAINED MAN CAN MAKE..."



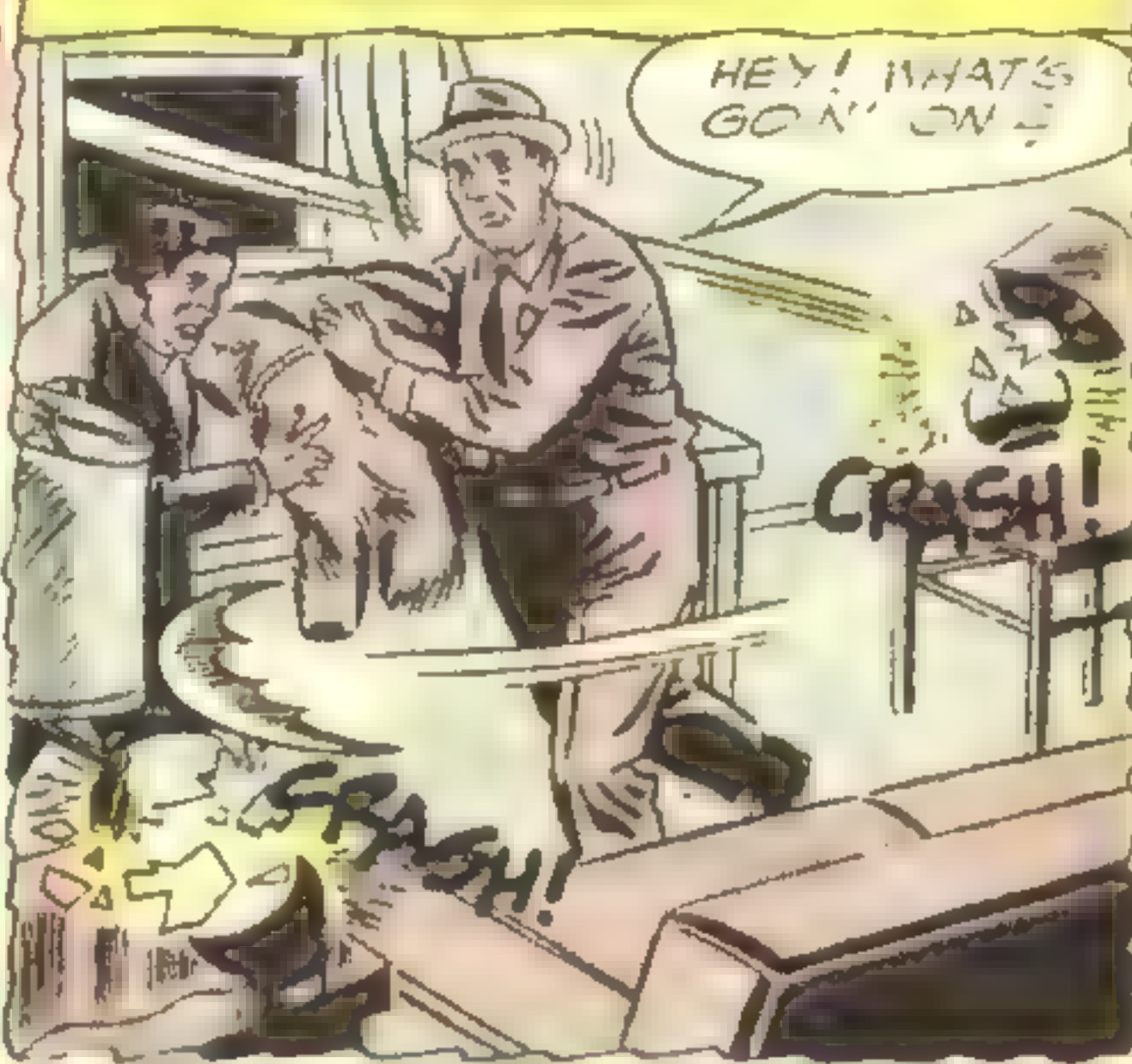
"I HIT PAY-DIRT--THE GANG WAS THERE, PLANNING TO DISPOSE OF SOME STOLEN FURS..."

OKAY--WE'LL SNEAK THESE FURS OUT OF TOWN AND UNLOAD THEM ON AN UP-STATE MARKET!

THREE TO ONE ODDS ... AGAINST ME...

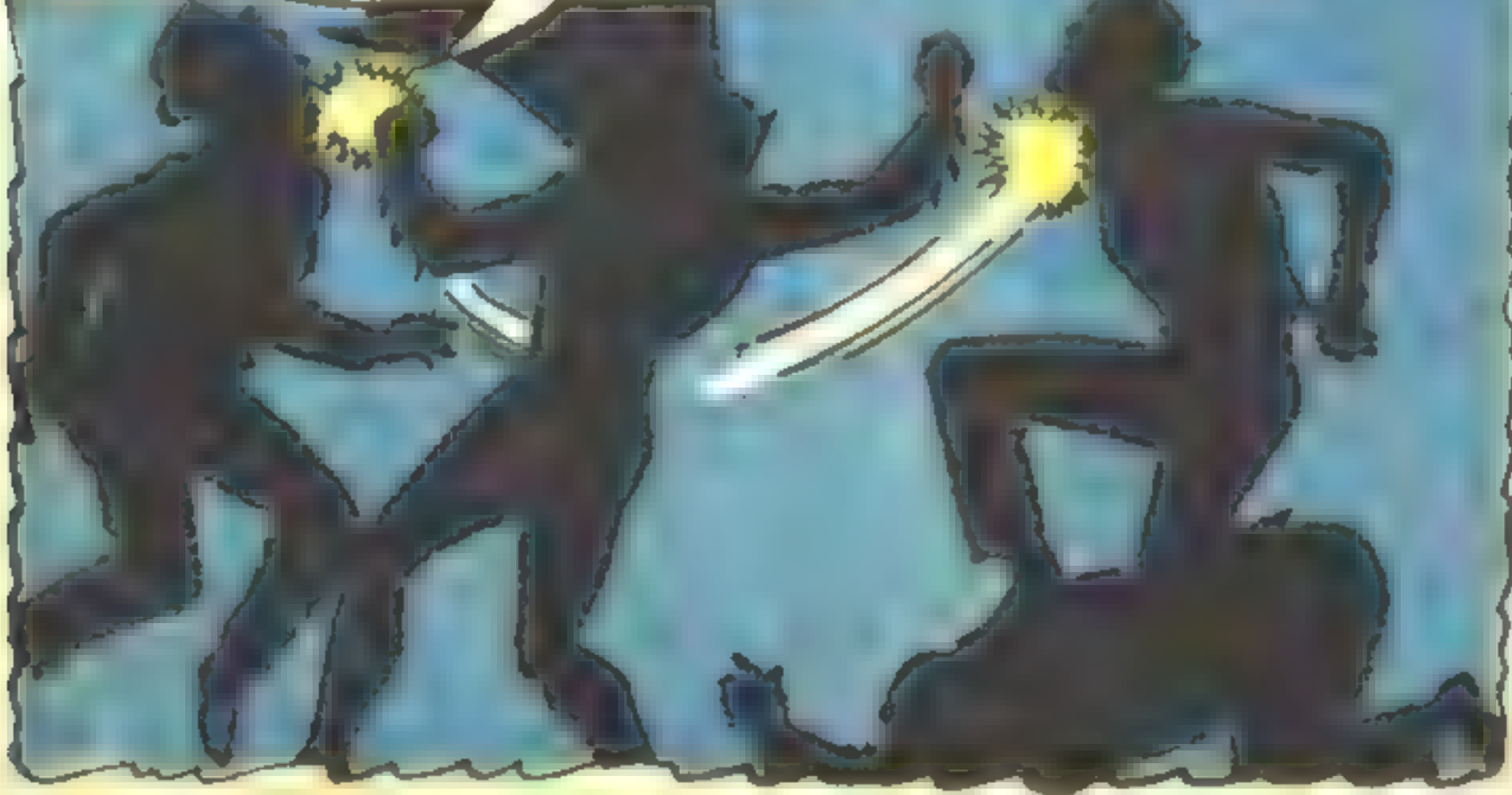


I FIGURED THE BEST WAY TO EVEN THINGS WAS TO DOUSE THE LIGHTS--WITH MY BATARANG...

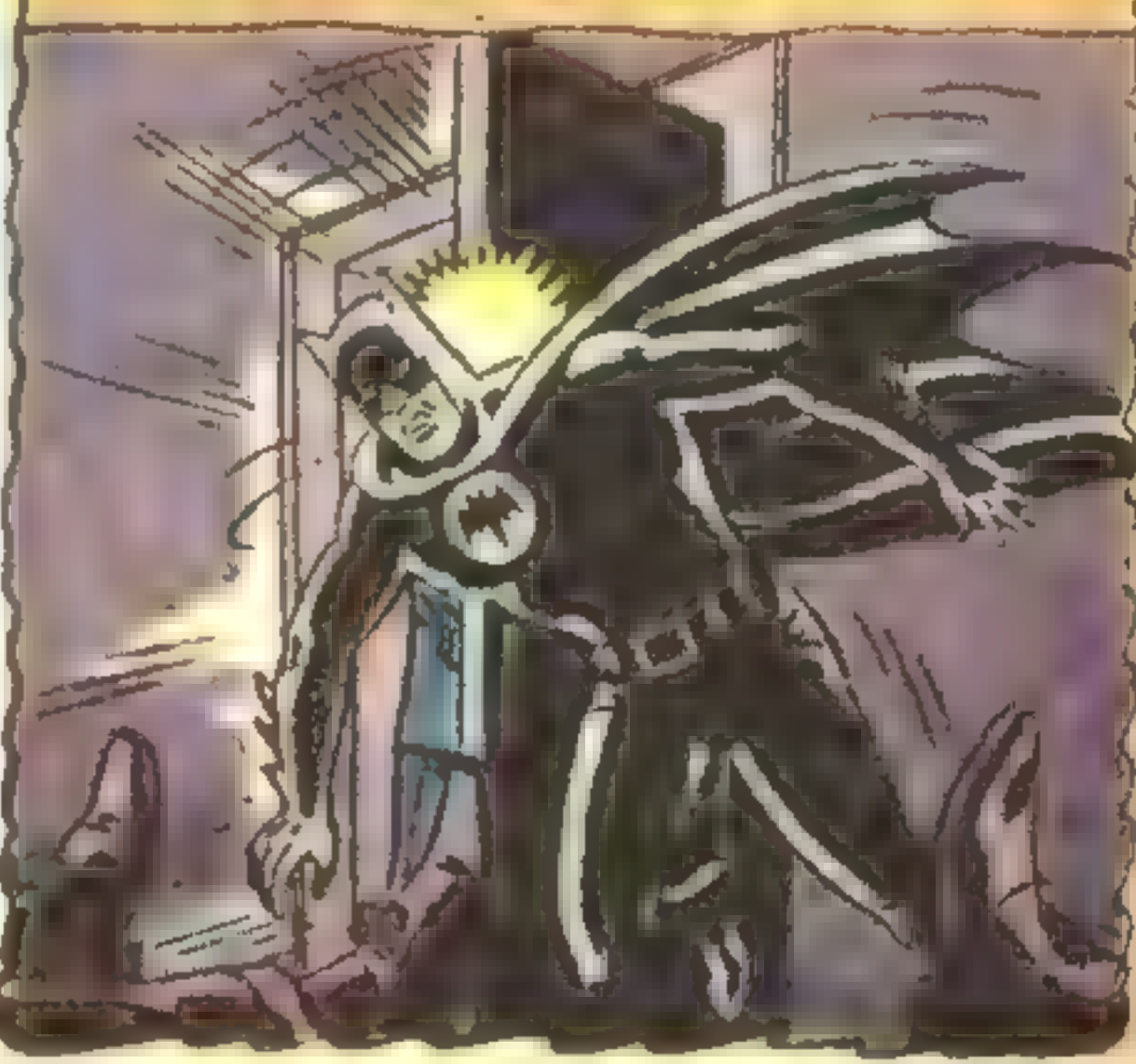


"MY EYES WERE ADJUSTED TO THE DARKNESS OUTSIDE--A BIG ADVANTAGE OVER THE CROOKS IN THEIR SUDDENLY BLACKED-OUT ROOM! I WAS THROUGH THE WINDOW IN A LEAP..."

HEY! SOMEONE'S IN HERE-- BUT I CAN'T SEE 'IM!

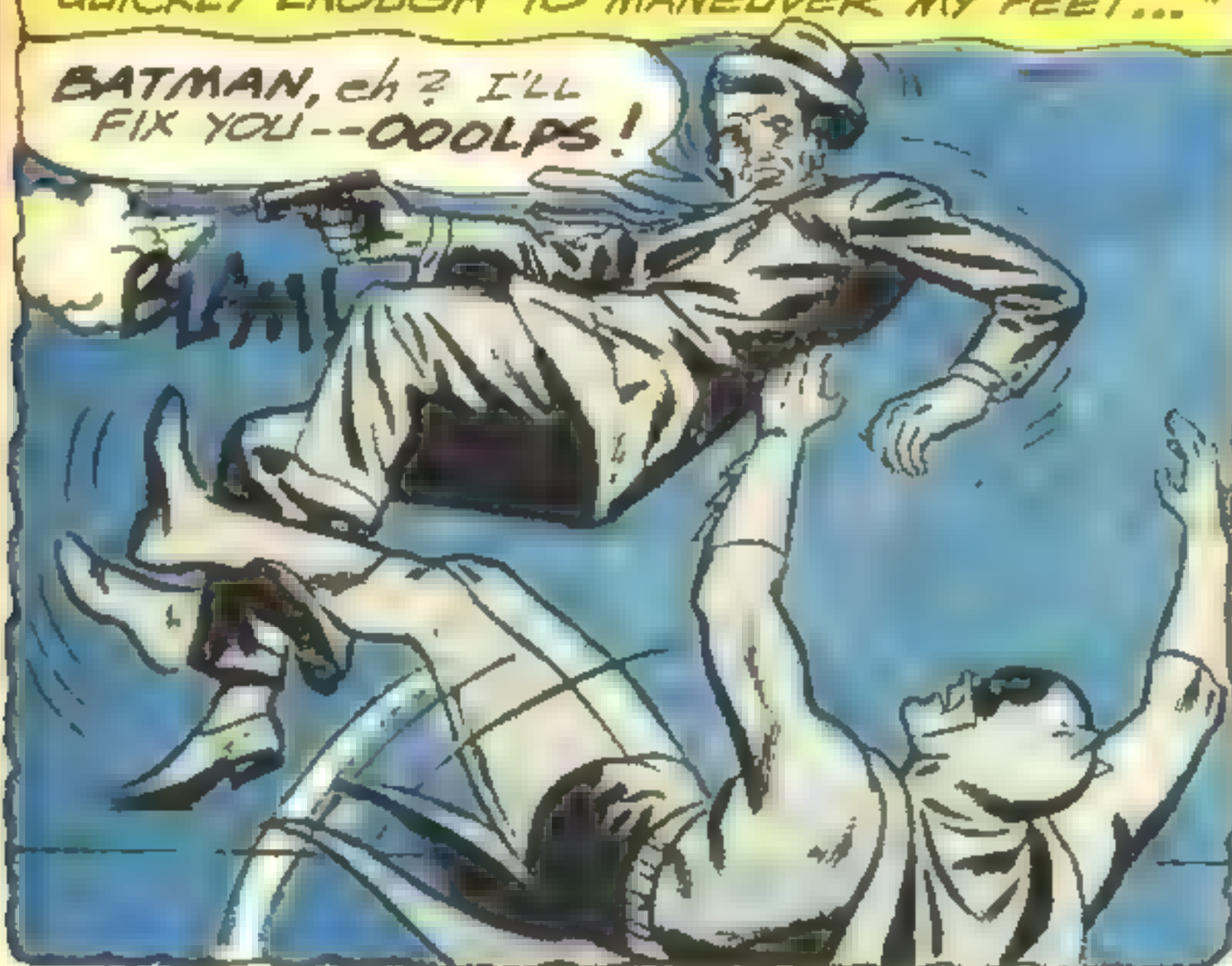


"DECKING THE THREE CROOKS WAS MUCH SIMPLER IN THE DARK--BUT I HADN'T COUNTED ON A FOURTH ONE, WHO SWUNG OPEN A HEAVY DOOR BEHIND ME..."



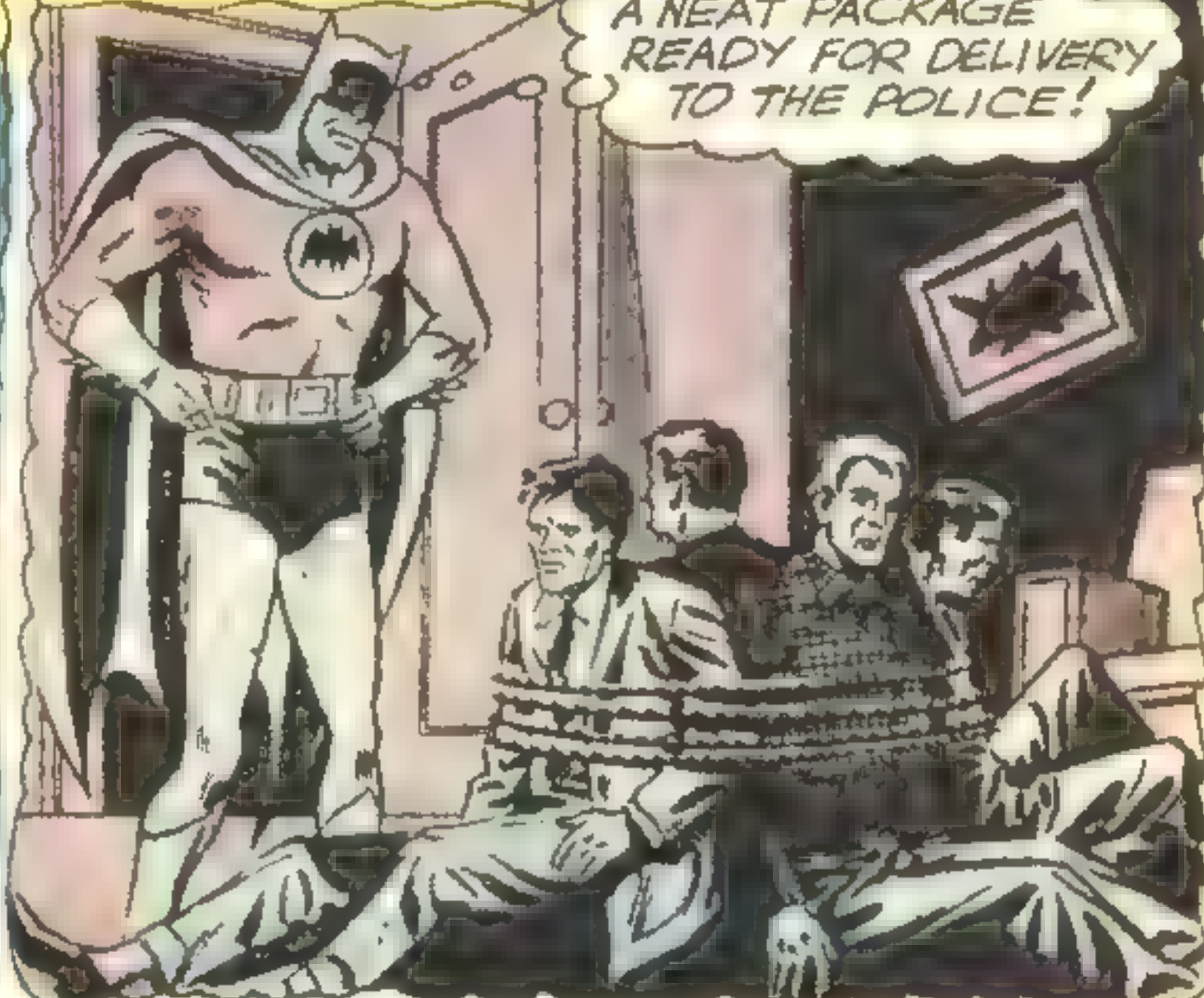
"STUNNED, I HIT THE FLOOR--BUT THANKS TO MY TIP-TOP PHYSICAL CONDITION, I RECOVERED QUICKLY ENOUGH TO MANEUVER MY FEET..."

BATMAN, eh? I'LL FIX YOU--OOOLPS!



"IN ANOTHER MOMENT, I HAD THEM TRUSSED UP..."

A NEAT PACKAGE READY FOR DELIVERY TO THE POLICE!



AFTER A ROUND OF LUSTY APPLAUSE PUNCTUATES THE CRIME-FIGHTER'S SPEECH, POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON STEPS FORWARD AND...

NOW, BATMAN, YOU HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF PRESENTING THIS PLAQUE TO THE TRAINEE WHO--FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ACADEMY HISTORY--RANKED FIRST IN ALL FOUR CATEGORIES OF TRAINING--ACADEMIC, PHYSICAL, FIREARMS--AND OVERALL!

AND NOW, WILL PATRICIA POWELL STEP UP HERE, AND... PATRICIA POWELL?!



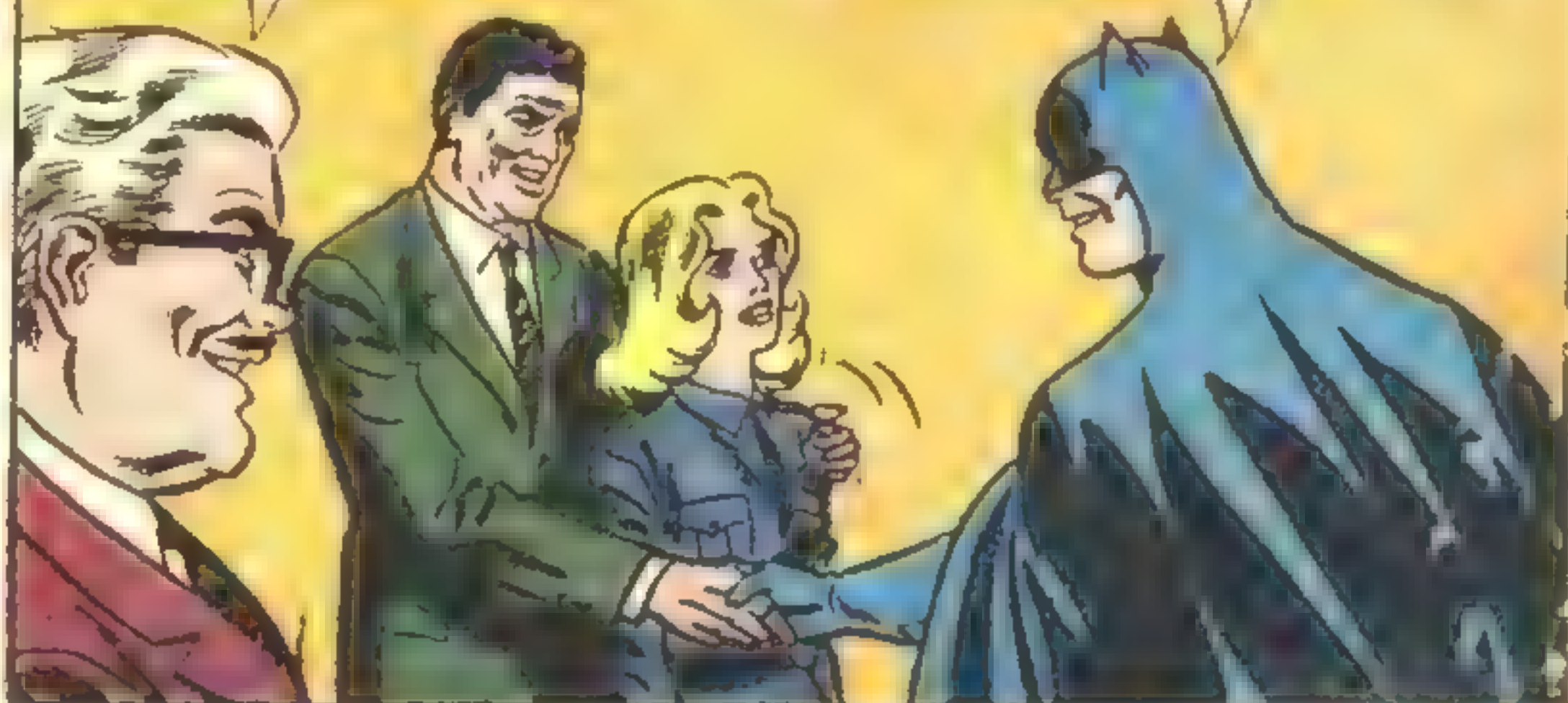
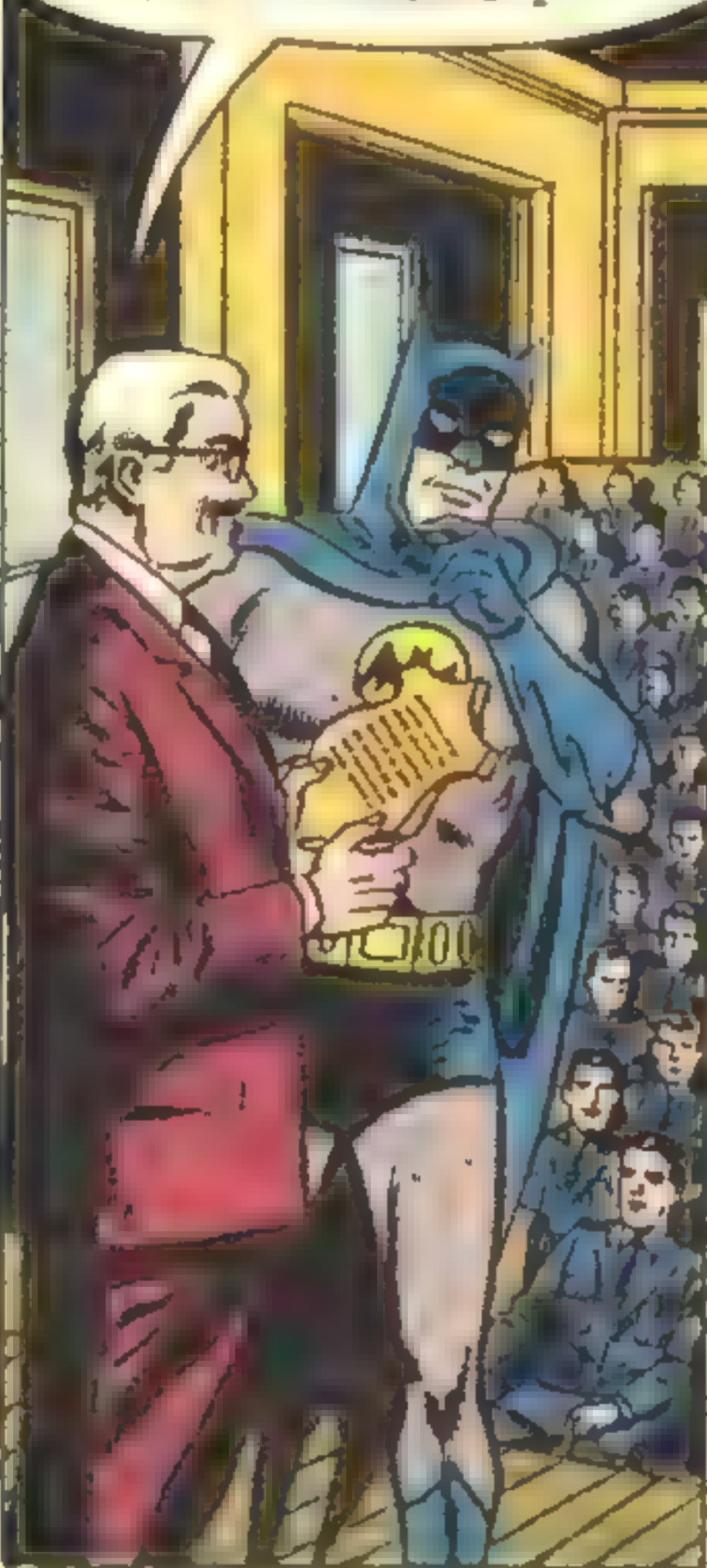
A POLICEWOMAN!



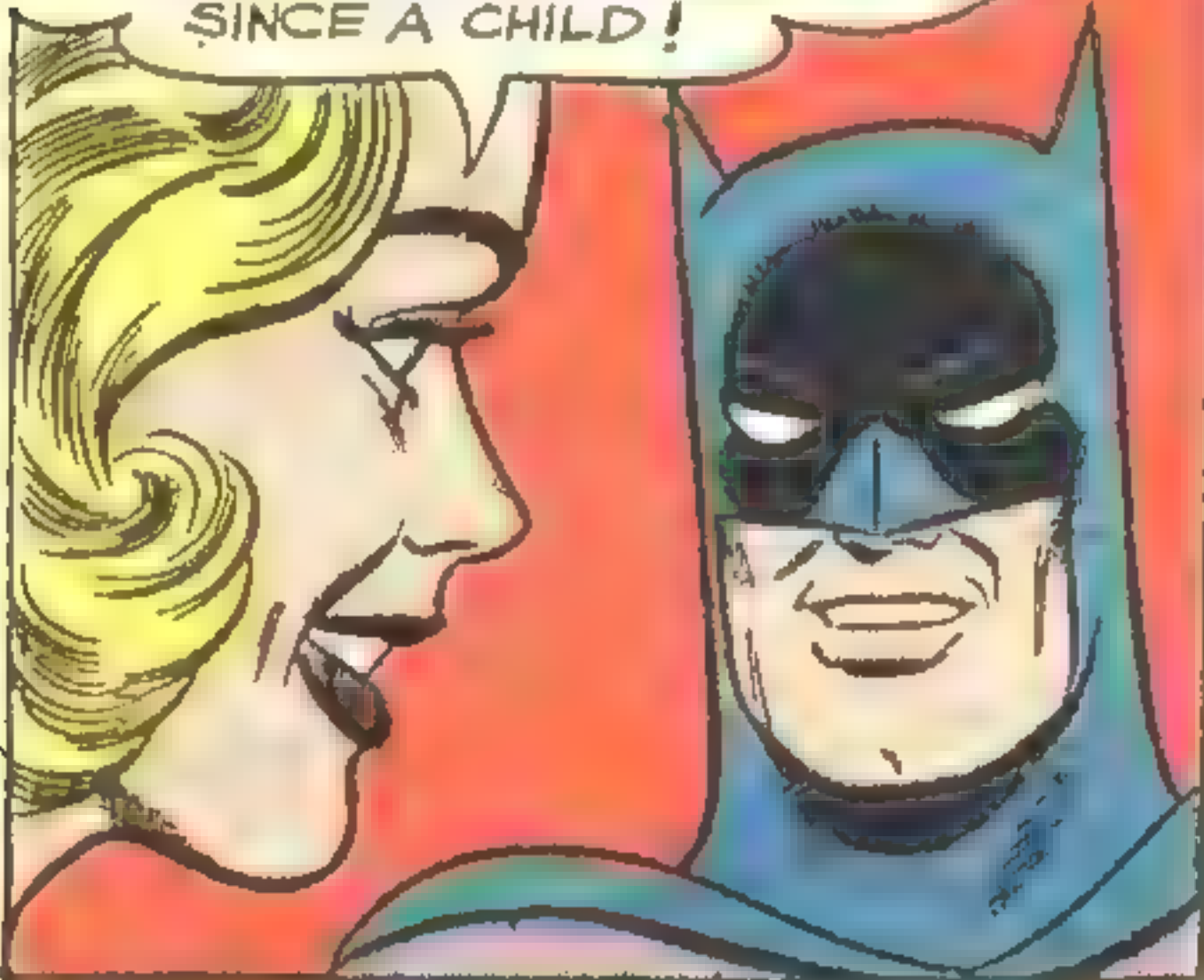
AFTER THE PRESENTATION, AND THE END OF THE CEREMONY...

MEET PAT'S FATHER, BATMAN--LT. DETECTIVE MIKE "BULLDOG" POWELL!

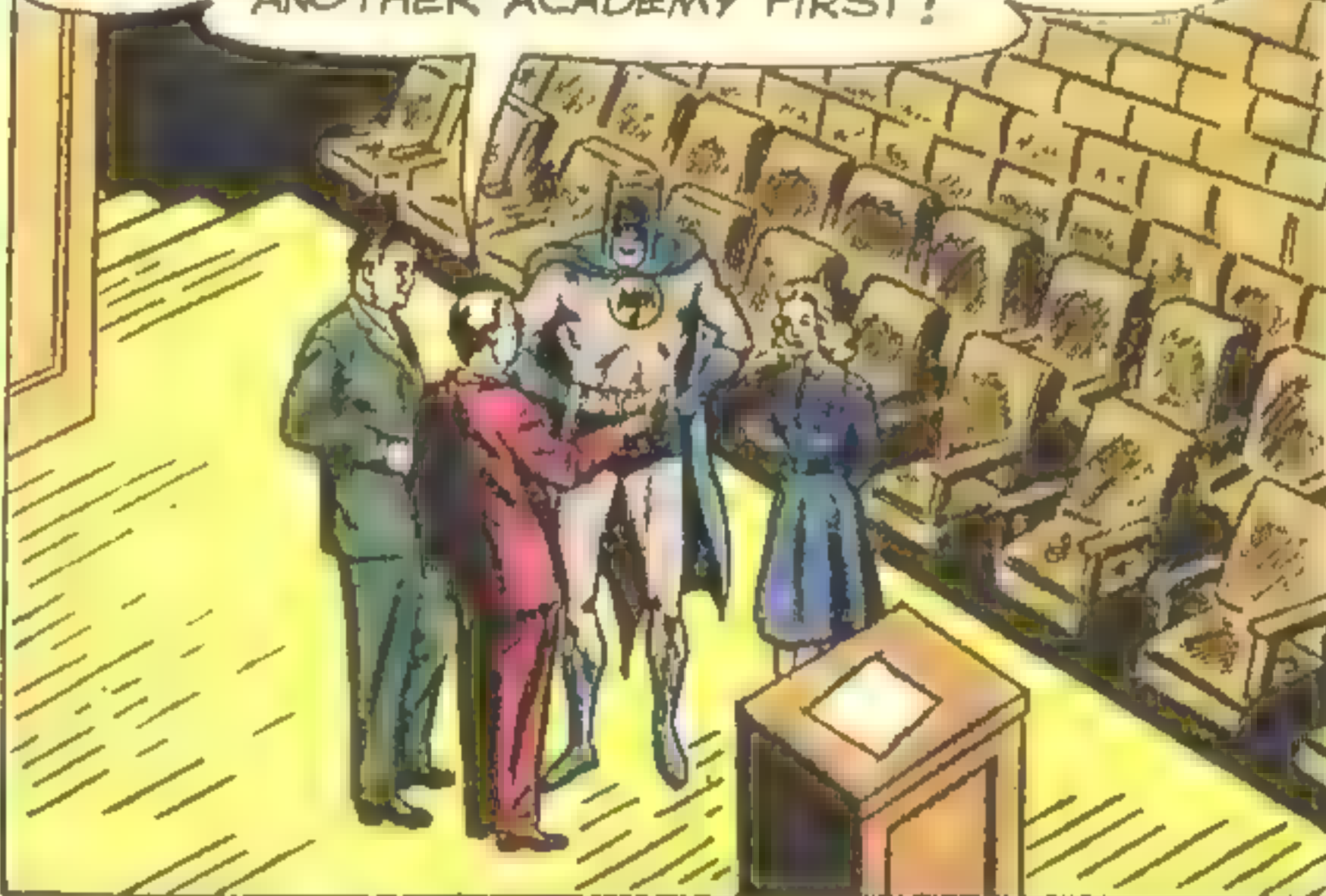
YOU COULD'VE KNOCKED ME OVER WITH DANDELION FUZZ WHEN I REALIZED YOUR DAUGHTER WON THE AWARD, LIEUTENANT!



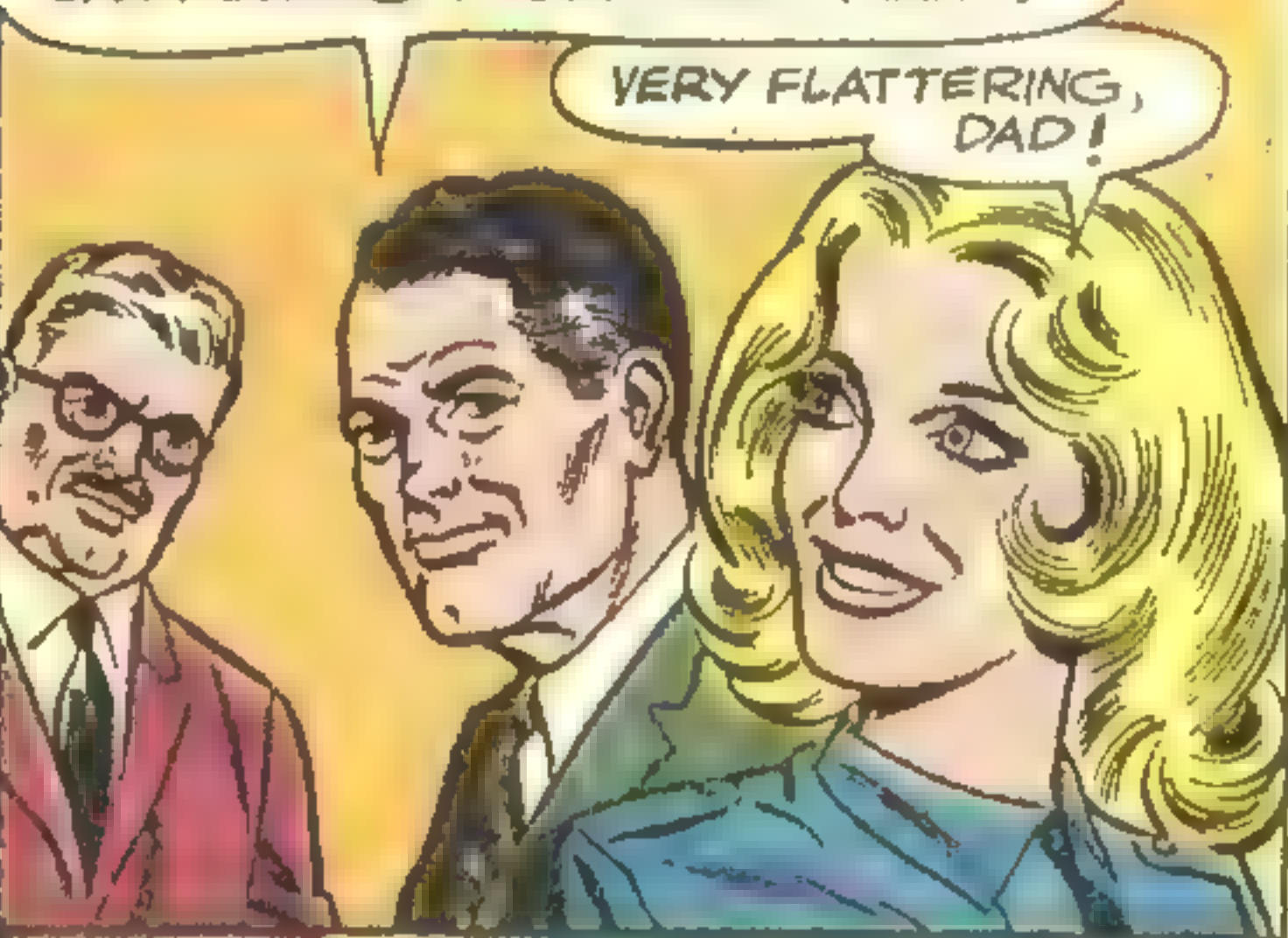
I HAD A HEAD START ON THE OTHERS! MY FATHER'S BEEN ON THE FORCE FOR 25 YEARS! I'VE ALWAYS IDOLIZED HIM, AND I KNEW I'D ONE DAY DO SOME KIND OF POLICE WORK! I'VE HAD SPECIAL TRAINING SINCE A CHILD!



MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU, **BATMAN**, PATRICIA'S ALREADY SLATED FOR **DETECTIVE** WORK, AND WILL BE TEAMED WITH HER FATHER! HER GRADES WARRANTED IMMEDIATE PROMOTION! ANOTHER ACADEMY FIRST!



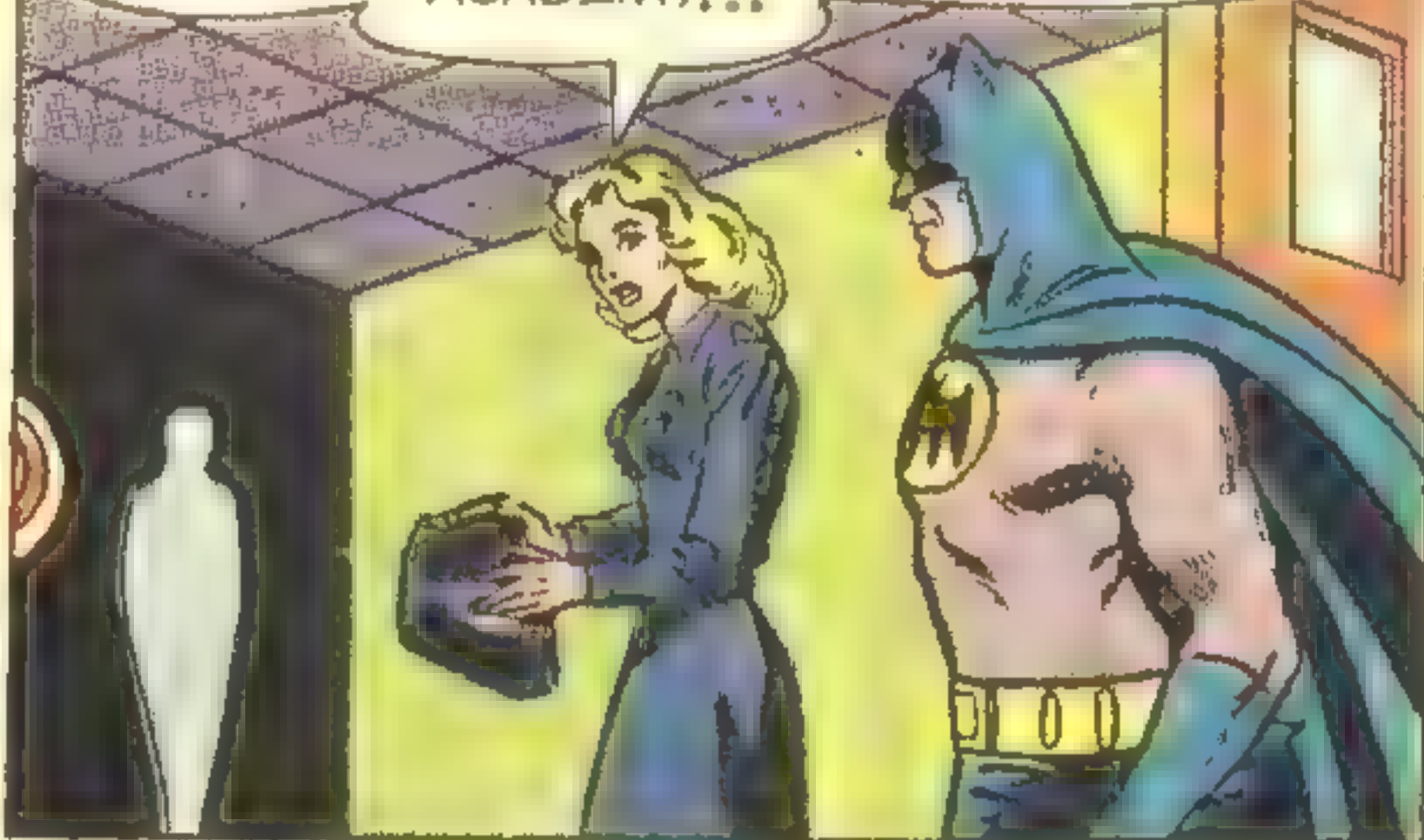
AT SHEER DEDUCTION, SHE'S A WHIZ! ALWAYS WAS! EVEN AS A LITTLE GIRL, PAT HAD AMAZING INTUITIVE POWERS-- AND WAS THE BEST ON THE BLOCK AT THE GAME OF HIDE-AND-SEEK! SHE ALWAYS FOUND HER "MAN"!



VERY FLATTERING, DAD!

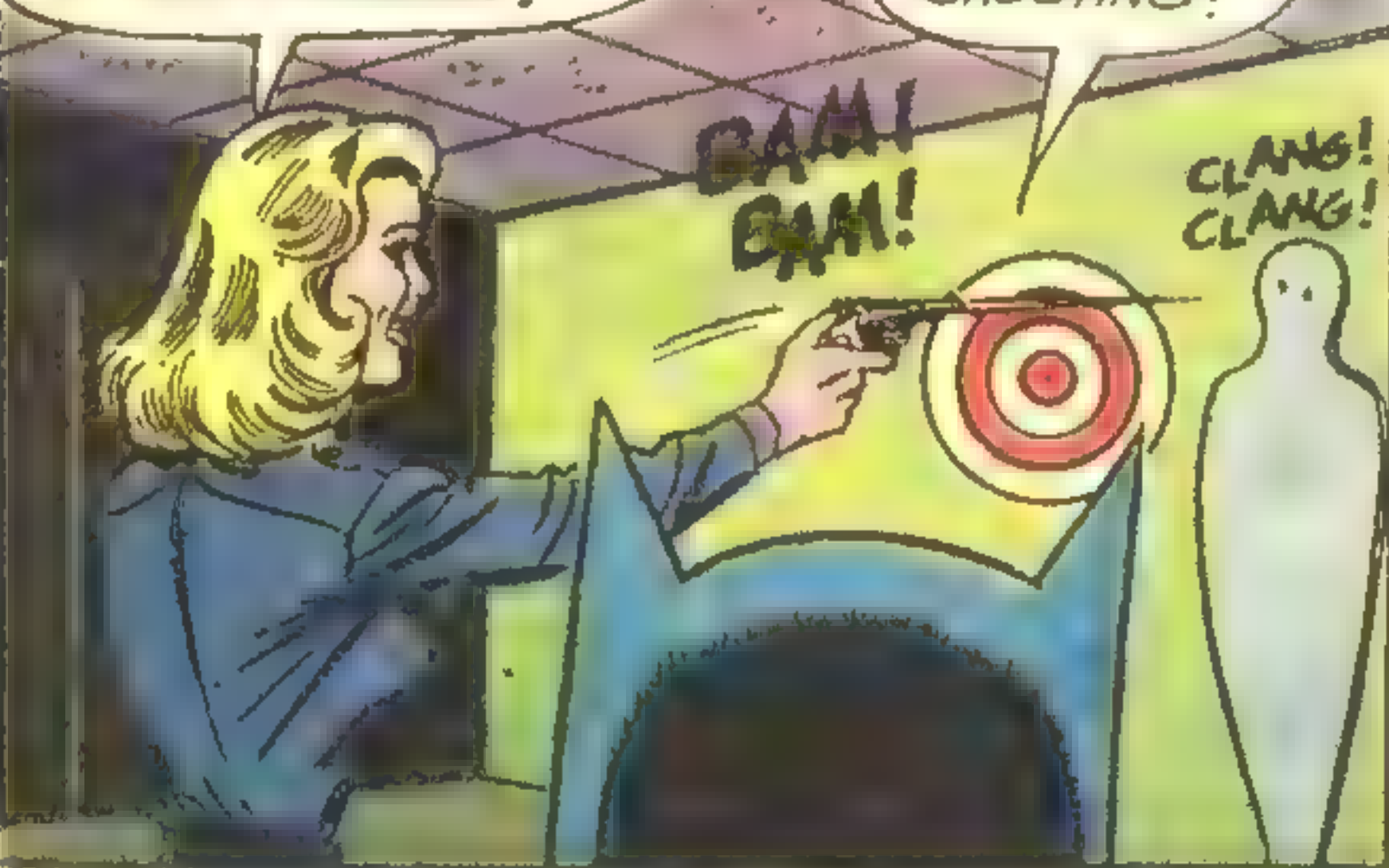
WHEN THE OTHERS DEPART, LEAVING PAT TO SHOW **BATMAN** AROUND THE ACADEMY...

...THEN DAD SENT ME TO THE BEST OF SCHOOLS, TO PREPARE ME FOR POLICE WORK! WHEN I GRADUATED, I TOOK A YEAR OFF FOR A KIND OF **FLING** BEFORE ENTERING THE ACADEMY...



...AND WAS SCOOPED UP IN THE SOCIAL WHIRL! IT WAS FUN-- WHILE IT LASTED, BUT NOW I'M DOWN TO THE SERIOUS BUSINESS OF BEING A POLICEWOMAN!

RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES! GOOD SHOOTING!

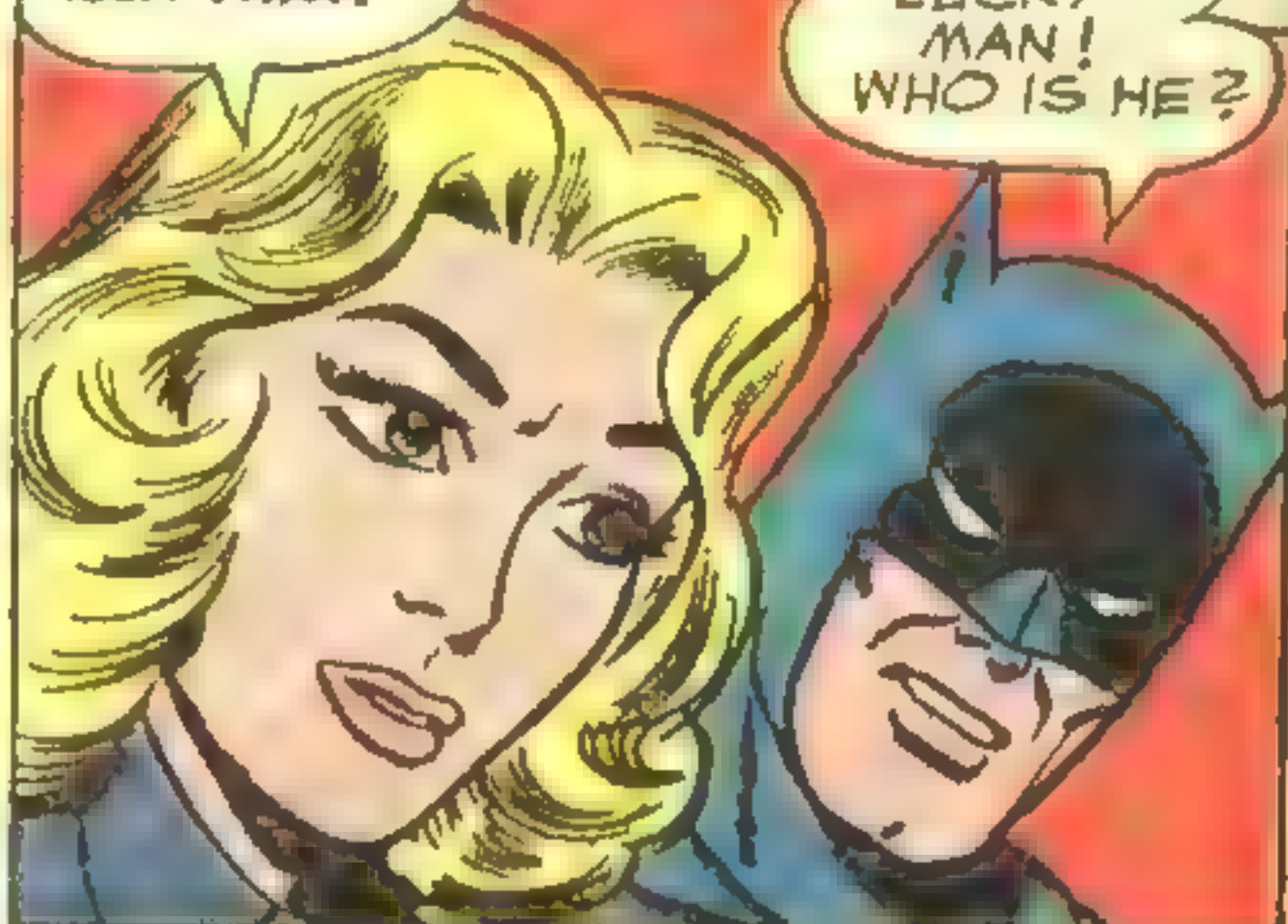


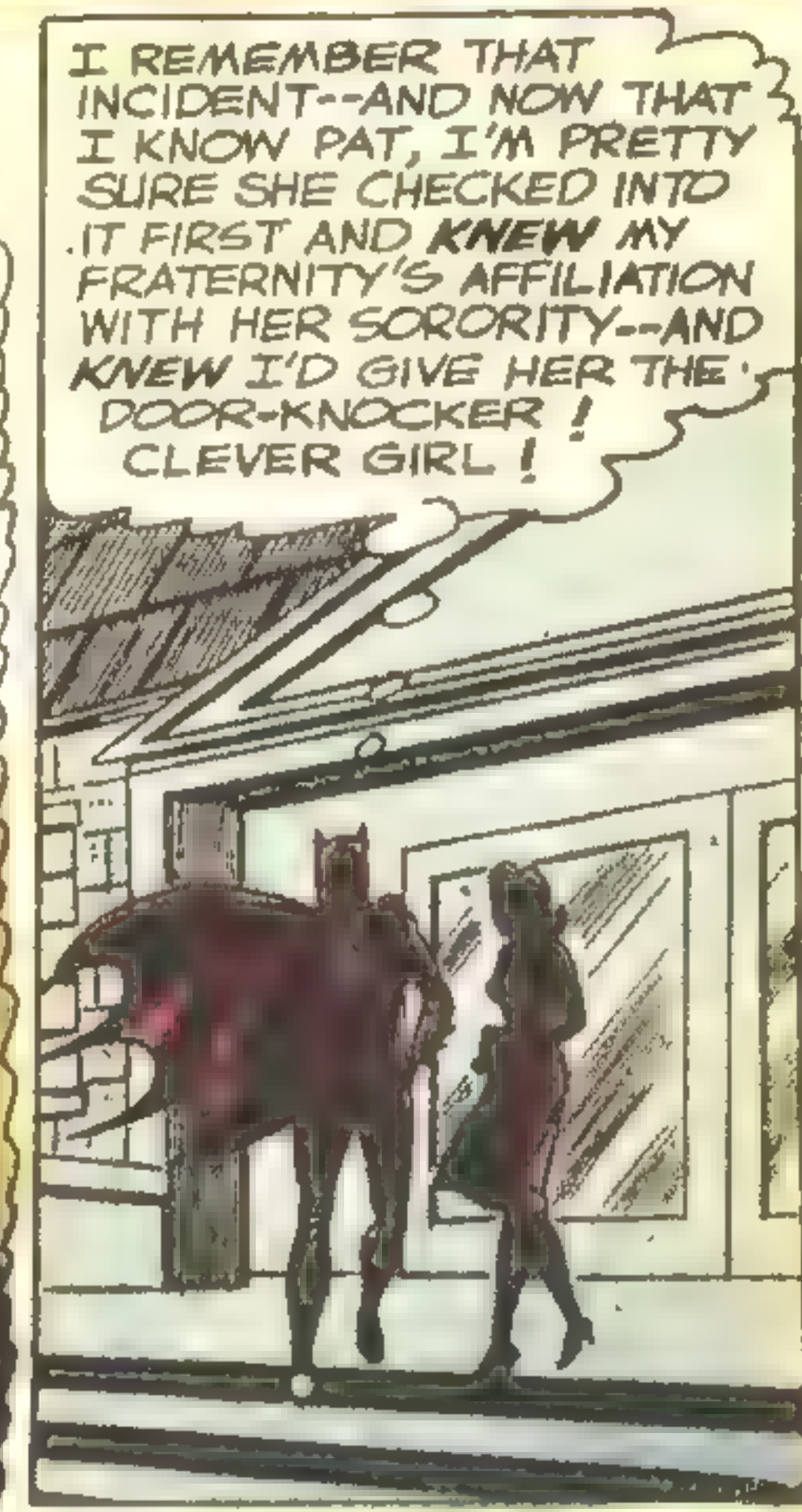
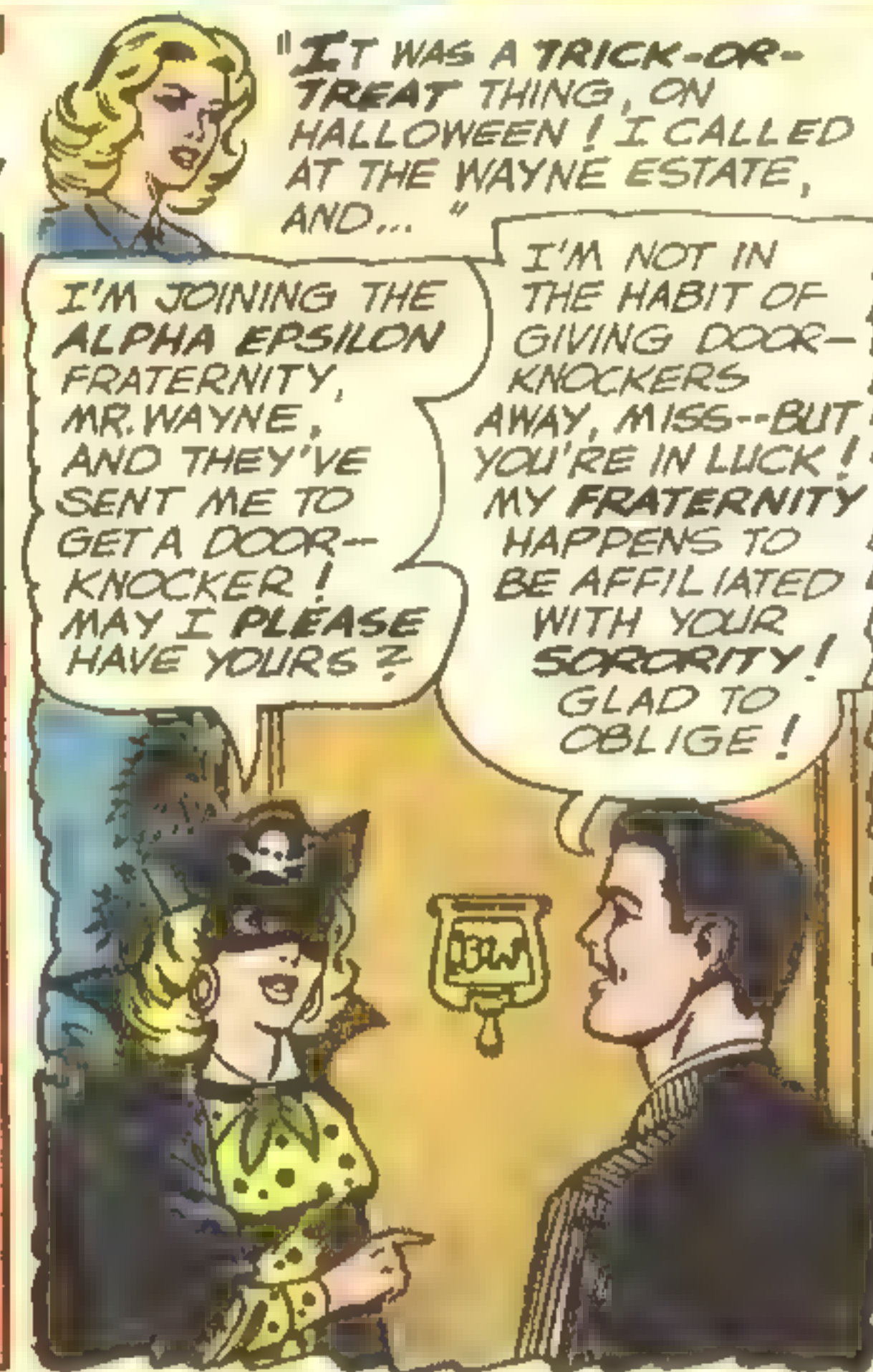
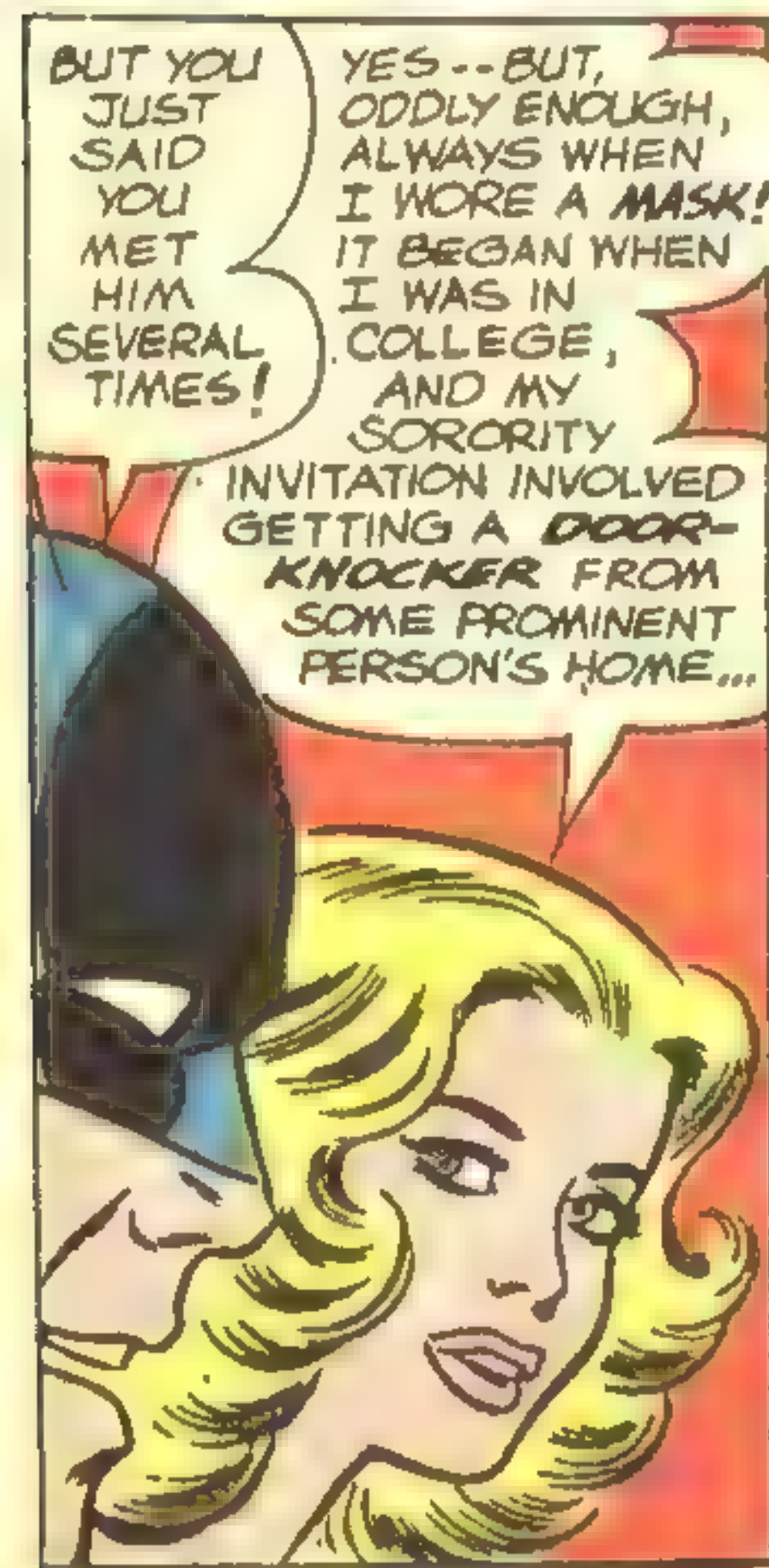
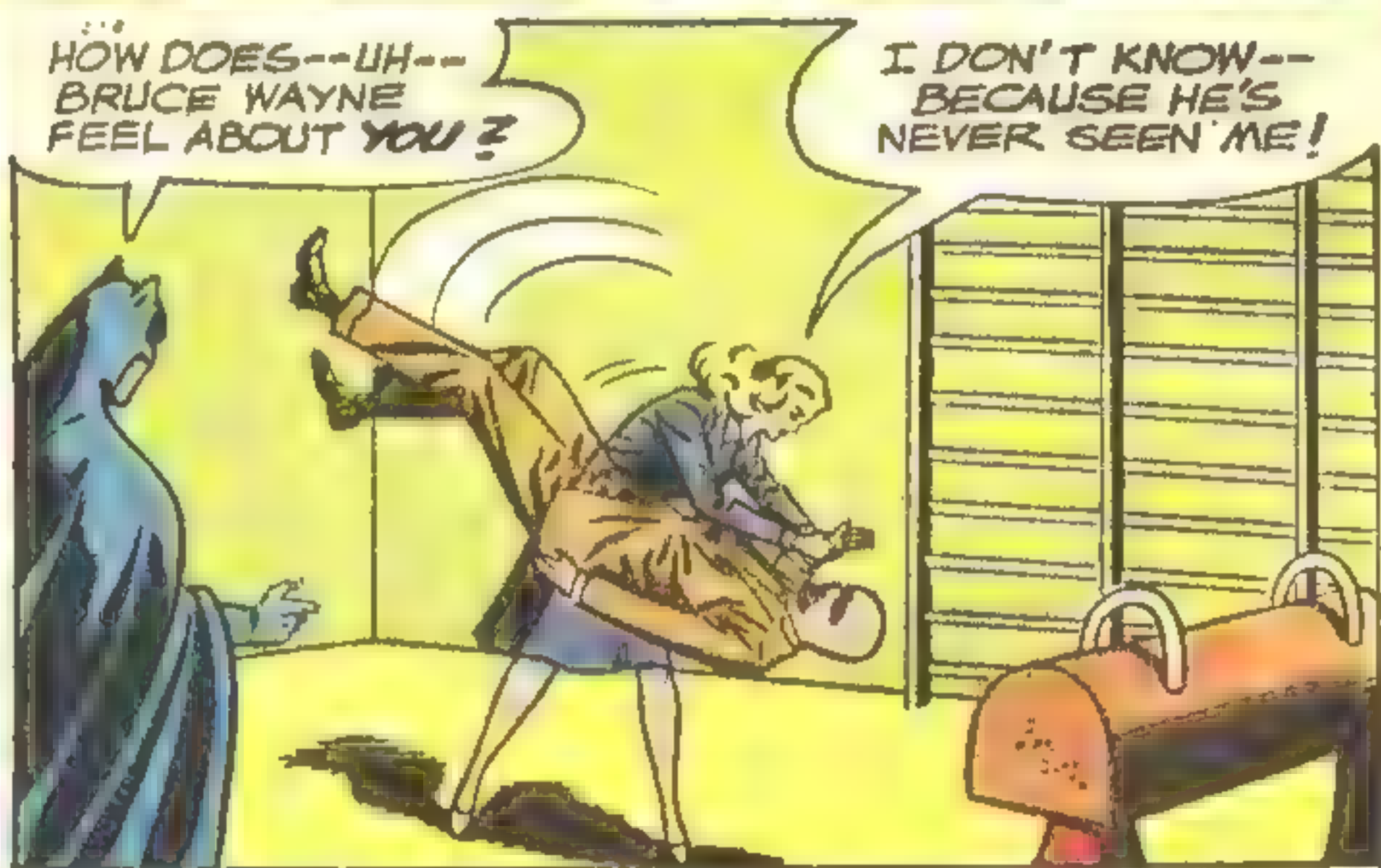
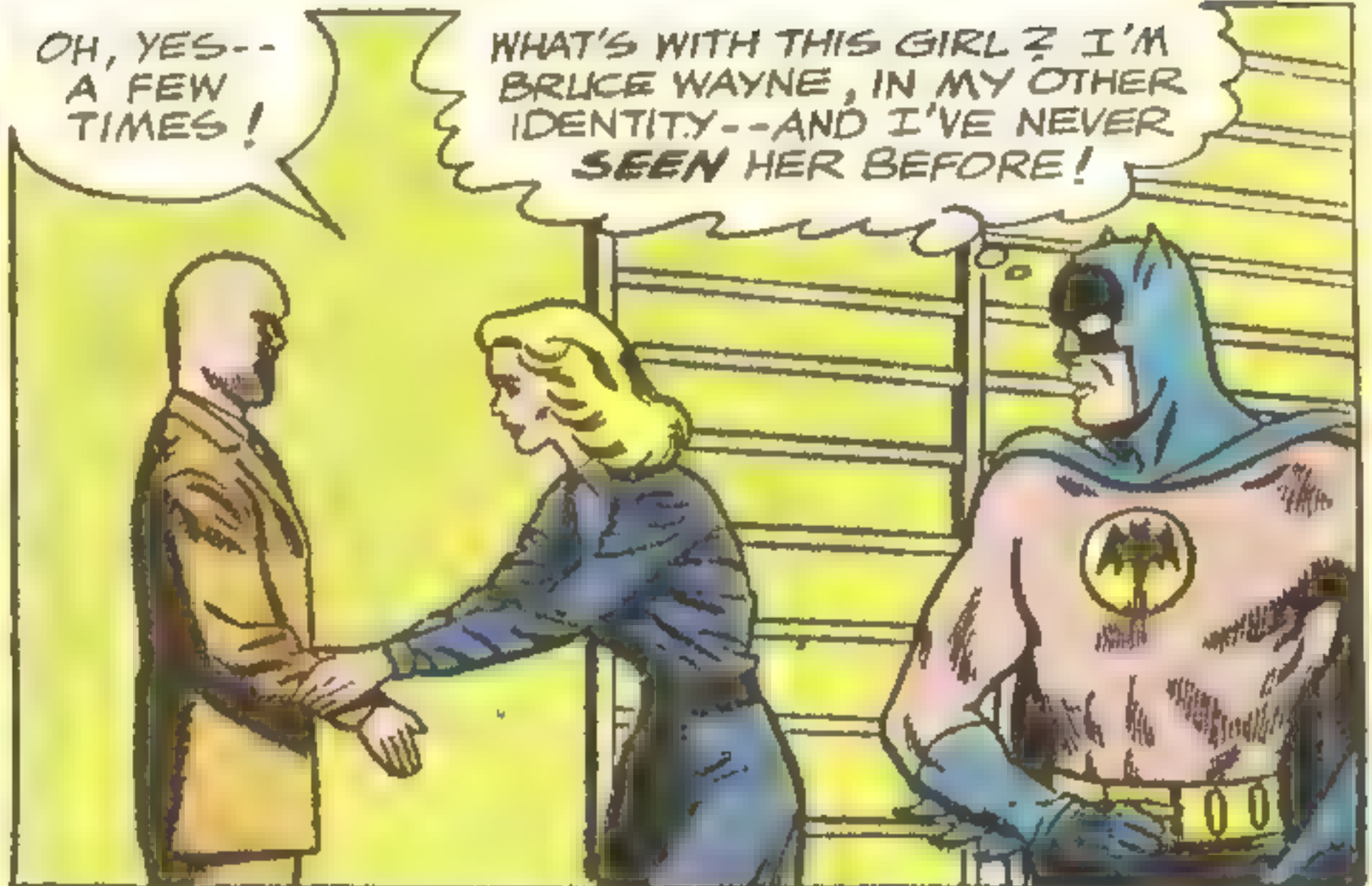
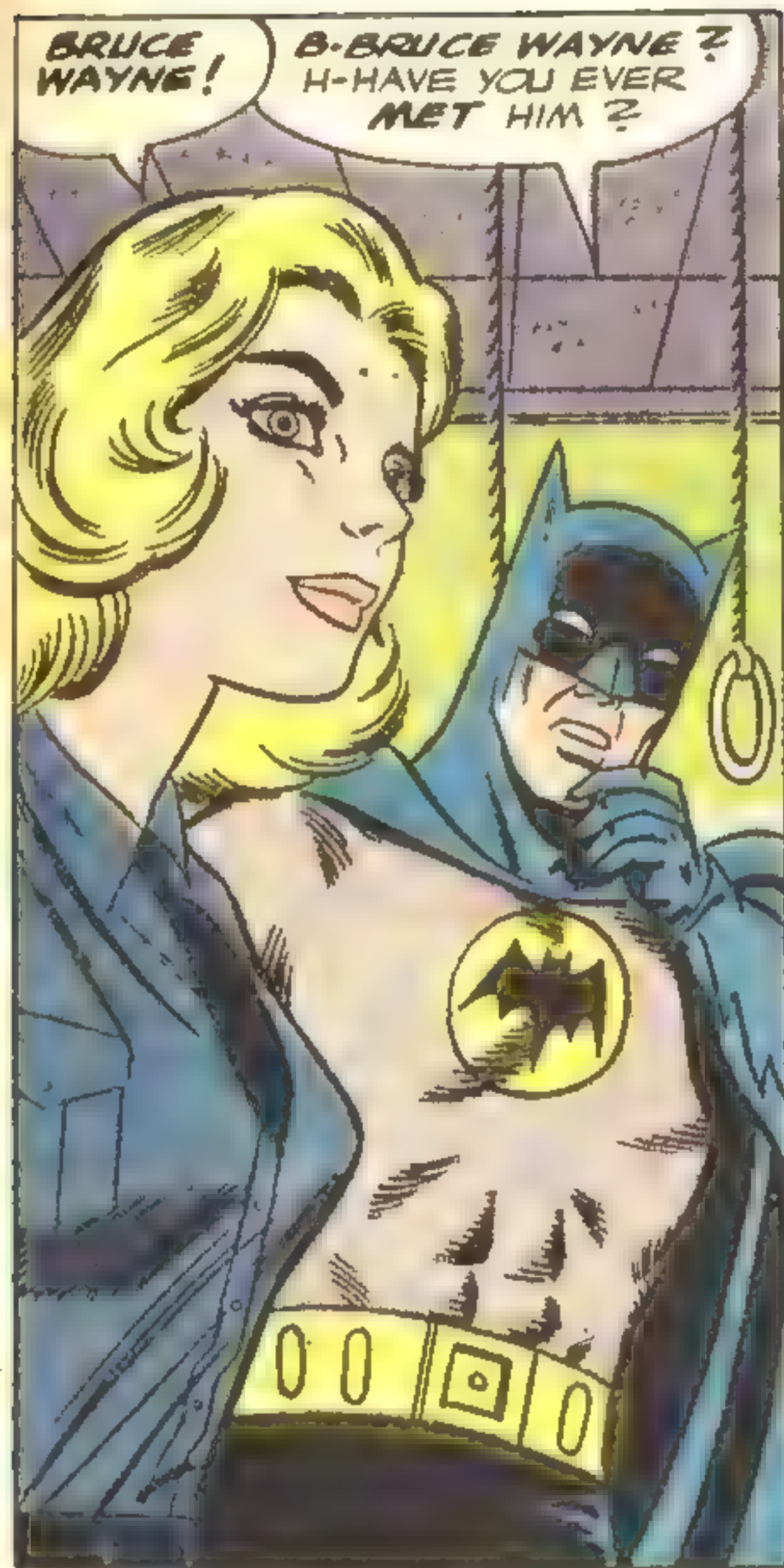
BAM! BAM!

CLANG! CLANG!

BUT I'M CONCERNED ABOUT SOMETHING, **BATMAN**--SOMETHING THAT MIGHT INTERFERE WITH MY WORK! YOU SEE--I'VE GOT A CRUSH ON A MAN, AND I HAVE UNEXPECTED LAPSSES WHERE I CAN THINK OF NOTHING BUT HIM!

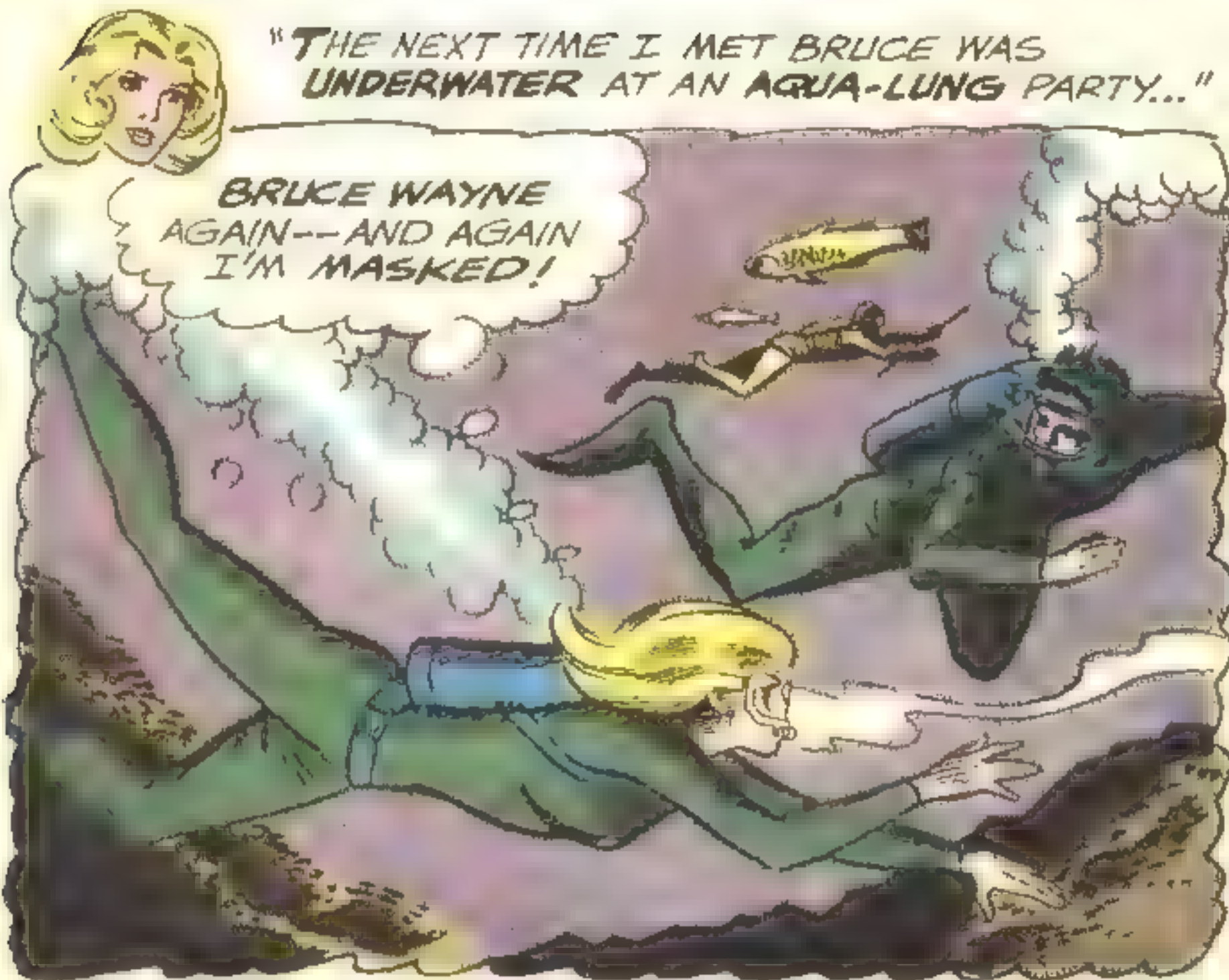
LUCKY MAN! WHO IS HE?





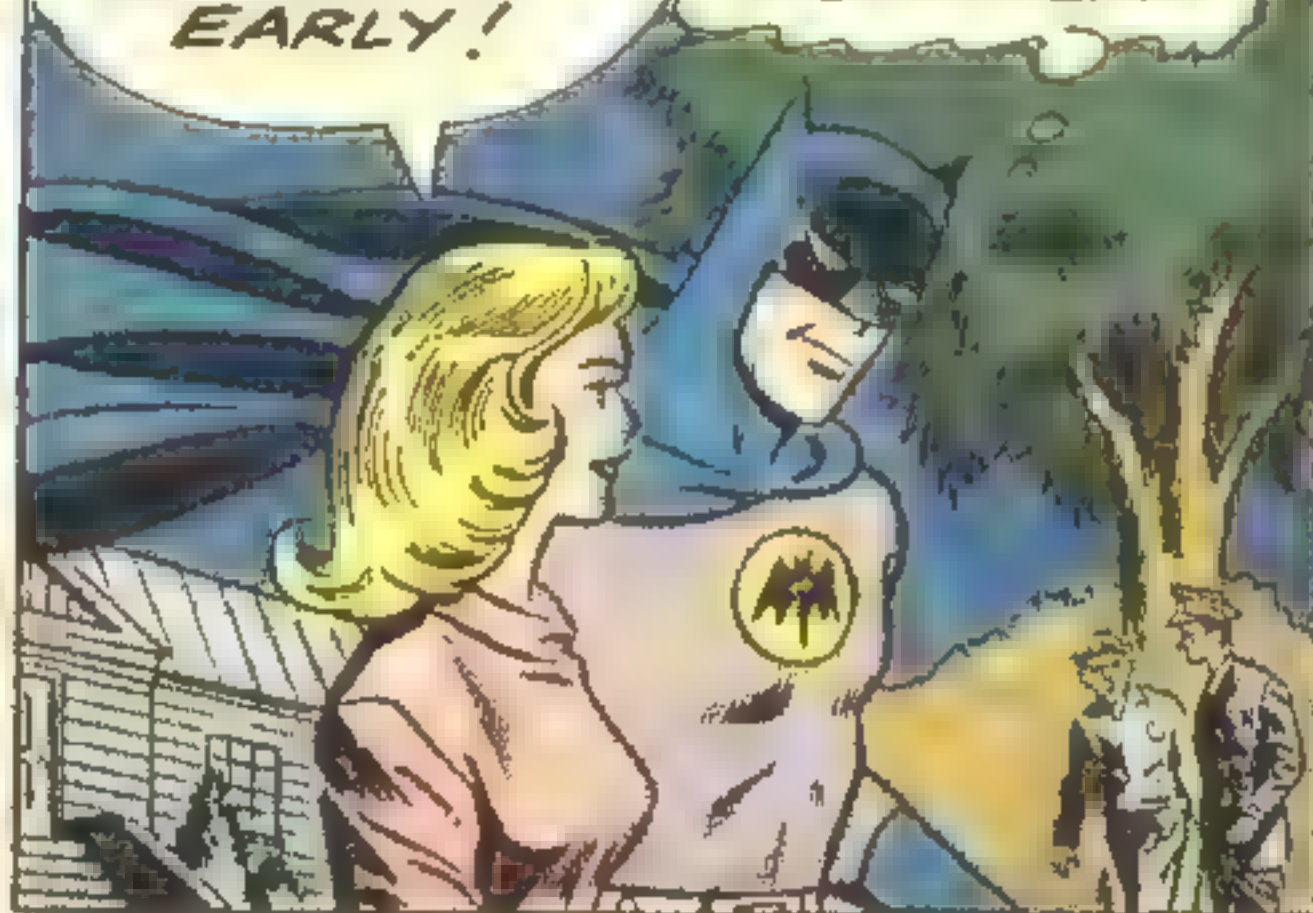
"THE NEXT TIME I MET BRUCE WAS UNDERWATER AT AN AQUA-LUNG PARTY..."

BRUCE WAYNE AGAIN--AND AGAIN I'M MASKED!



THEN, THERE WAS THE NEW YEAR'S MASQUERADE PARTY AT THE HOLLOWAYS'. I WAS COUNTING ON COMING FACE TO FACE WITH BRUCE AT THE MIDNIGHT UNMASKING-- BUT HE LEFT EARLY!

MM-HLINH! THAT WAS THE TIME I SPOTTED THE **BAT-SIGNAL** FROM THE WINDOW, AND LEFT AT 11 O'CLOCK...



SO YOU SEE, I'VE GOT A CRUSH ON A MAN WHO HAS NEVER REALLY SEEN ME!

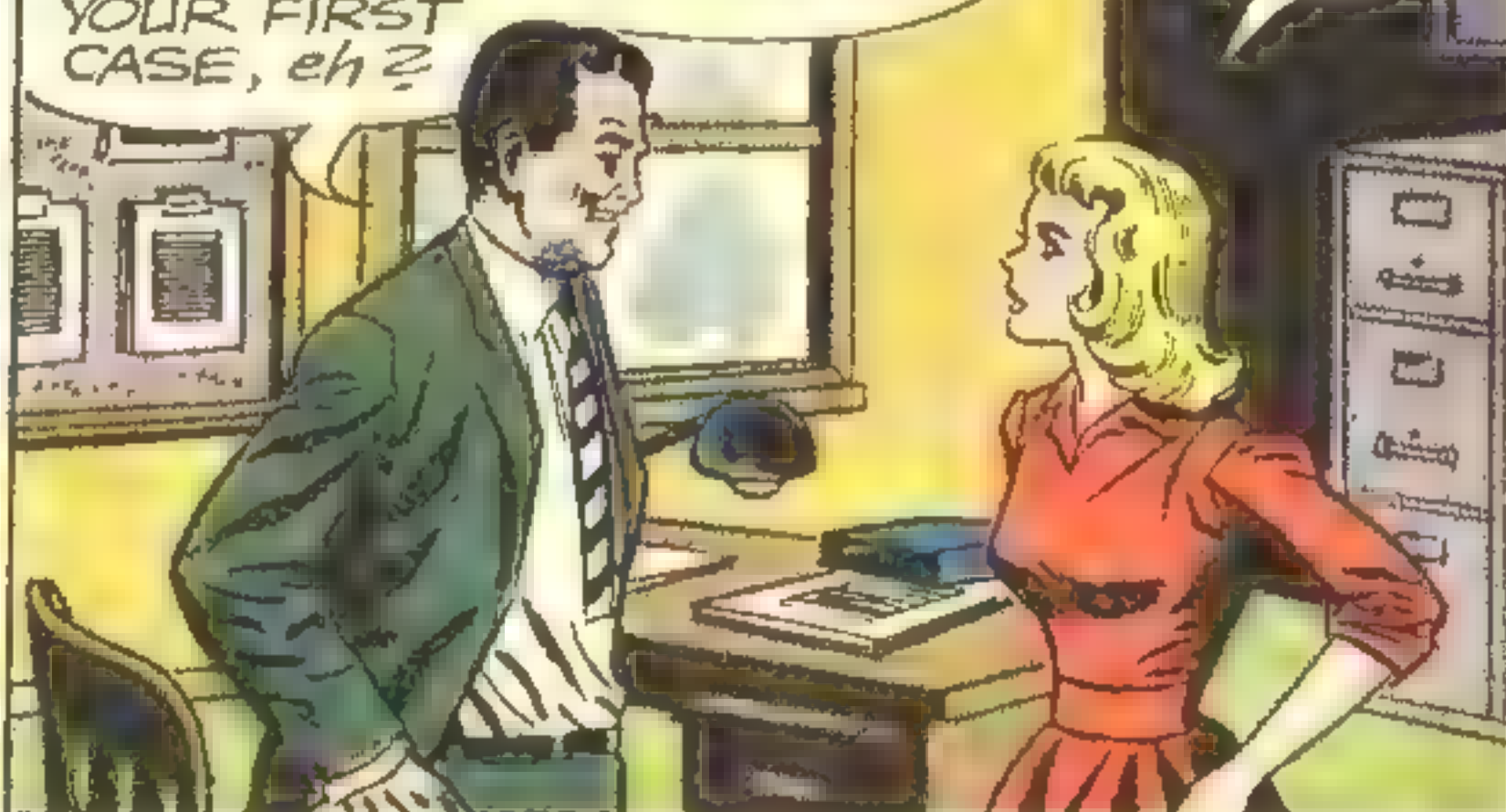
WHAT IRONY! NOW THAT I CAN SEE HER FACE--I'M THE ONE WHO'S MASKED! THIS PROMISES TO BE A REAL MIXED-UP SITUATION!



ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, AT HEADQUARTERS--

WHEN I BARK--OR GIVE AN ORDER--TAKE IT LIKE A MAN! I WON'T TREAT YOU AS MY DAUGHTER WHEN WE'RE ON DUTY! YOU'RE A **POLICEWOMAN**! Hmm... I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR PACING--ANXIOUS ABOUT YOUR FIRST CASE, eh?

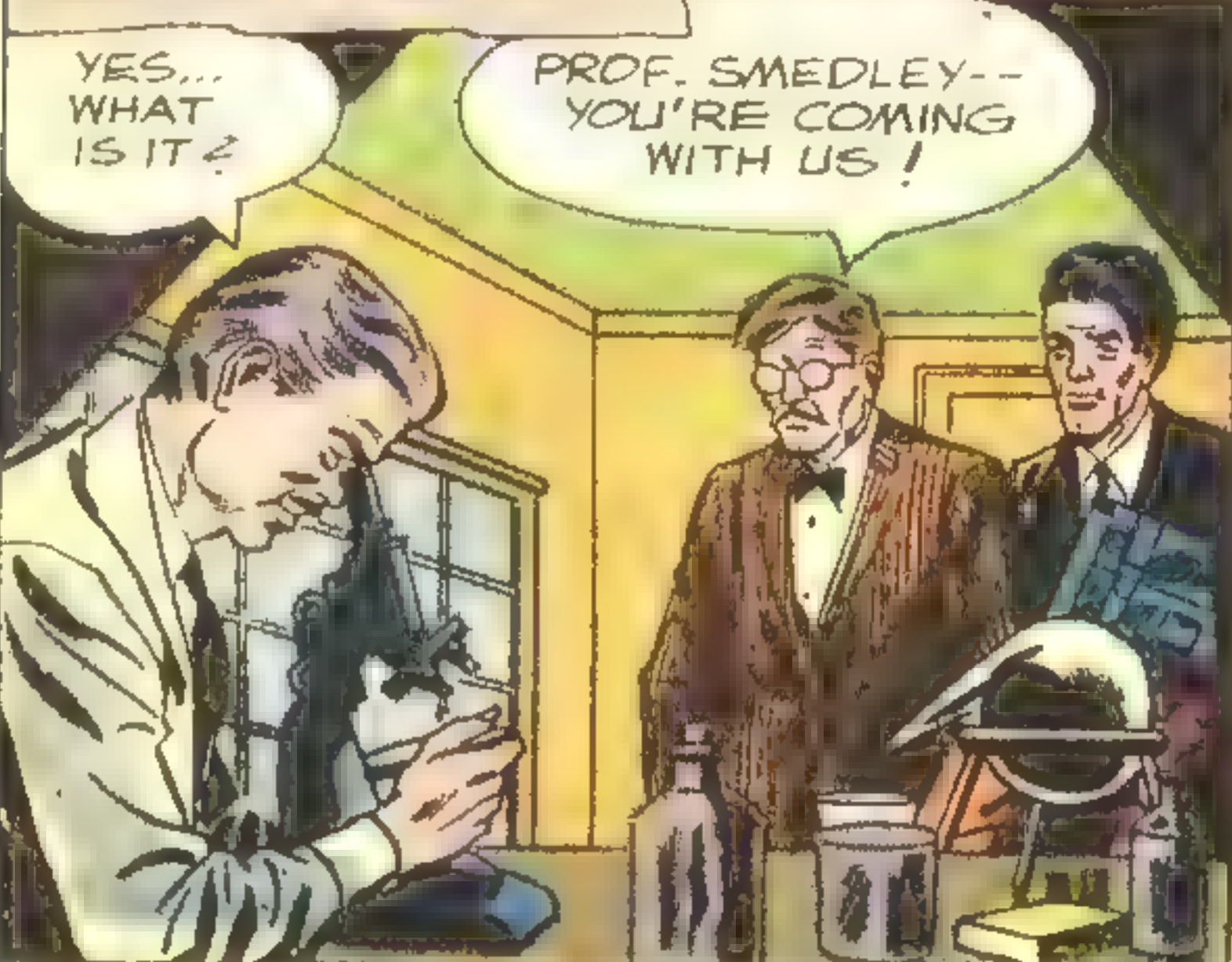
YES! I WONDER WHAT IT WILL BE LIKE...



UNKNOWN TO HER, DETECTIVE PATRICIA POWELL'S FIRST CASE IS ALREADY IN THE MAKING--AT THE HOME OF PROF. RALPH SMEDLEY, BRILLIANT CHEMIST...

YES... WHAT IS IT?

PROF. SMEDLEY-- YOU'RE COMING WITH US!



WHO ARE YOU? WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

WE'RE INTERESTED IN THE **FLARELESS, NOISELESS EXPLOSIVE** YOU'RE PERFECTING! WE WANT SOME OF IT--TO CRACK A FEW SAFES! THEN YOU CAN GO BACK TO FILLING ORDERS FOR THE ARMY!



WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?

IT WON'T HURT TO TELL HIM-- WE'RE ALONE! WE'VE GOT A JOB FOR YOU-- OUT AT THE OLD POINT SAFETY LIGHTHOUSE! DON'T TRY TO TIP OFF THE NEIGHBORS-- JUST ACT LIKE YOU'RE TAKING TWO VISITING SCIENTISTS FOR A DRIVE!

OUTSIDE...

PLAYING THE ROLE OF "VISITING SCIENTISTS" FOR THE BENEFIT OF NEIGHBORS WHO MIGHT SPOT US IS OKAY-- BUT THIS HAIRPIECE IS ITCHY! GLAD TO GET IT OFF!

TWO HOURS LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

IS IT-- IS IT?

RIGHT! WE'VE GOT A CASE! PROF. SMEDLEY IS MISSING FROM HIS HOME! LET'S GO!

AND AT THIS MOMENT, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURN FROM A CASE...

THERE'S THE BUZZER ON THE HOT-LINE PHONE TO COMMISSIONER GORDON!

BZZZ!

SCREECH!

WHAT'S UP, COMMISSIONER?

PROF. SMEDLEY IS MISSING, BATMAN-- BUT WE DIDN'T SEND UP THE BATSIGNAL, BECAUSE IT COULD BE A ROUTINE CASE AND I DIDN'T WANT TO INVOLVE YOU! BUT...

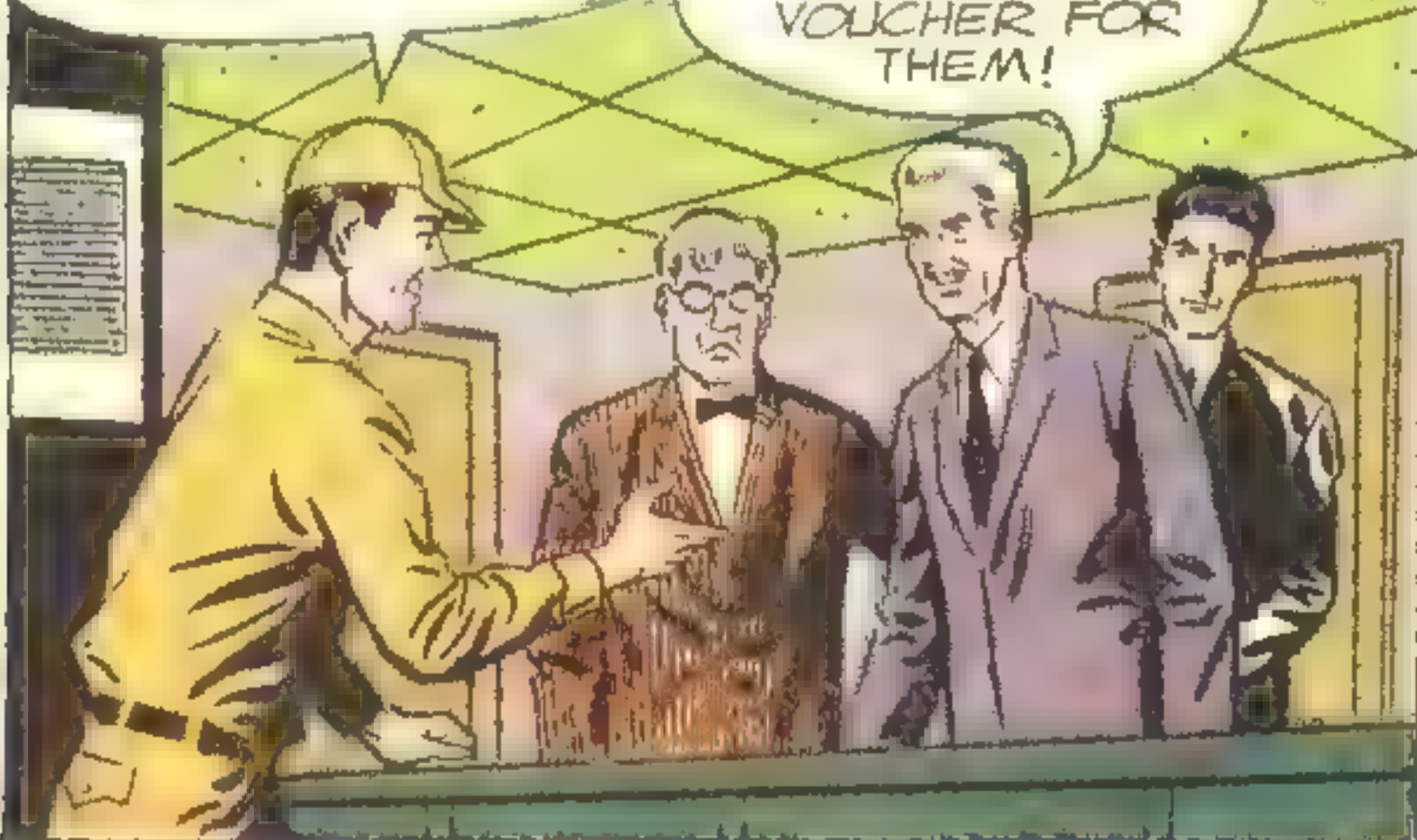
...YOU WANTED ME TO LET YOU KNOW WHAT PAT POWELL'S FIRST JOB WOULD BE! SHE AND HER DAD ARE ON THE SMEDLEY CASE!

THANKS, COMMISSIONER! I'LL BE CURIOUS TO KNOW HOW SHE MAKES OUT!

MEANWHILE, AT THE NORTHSIDE CHEMICAL PLANT...

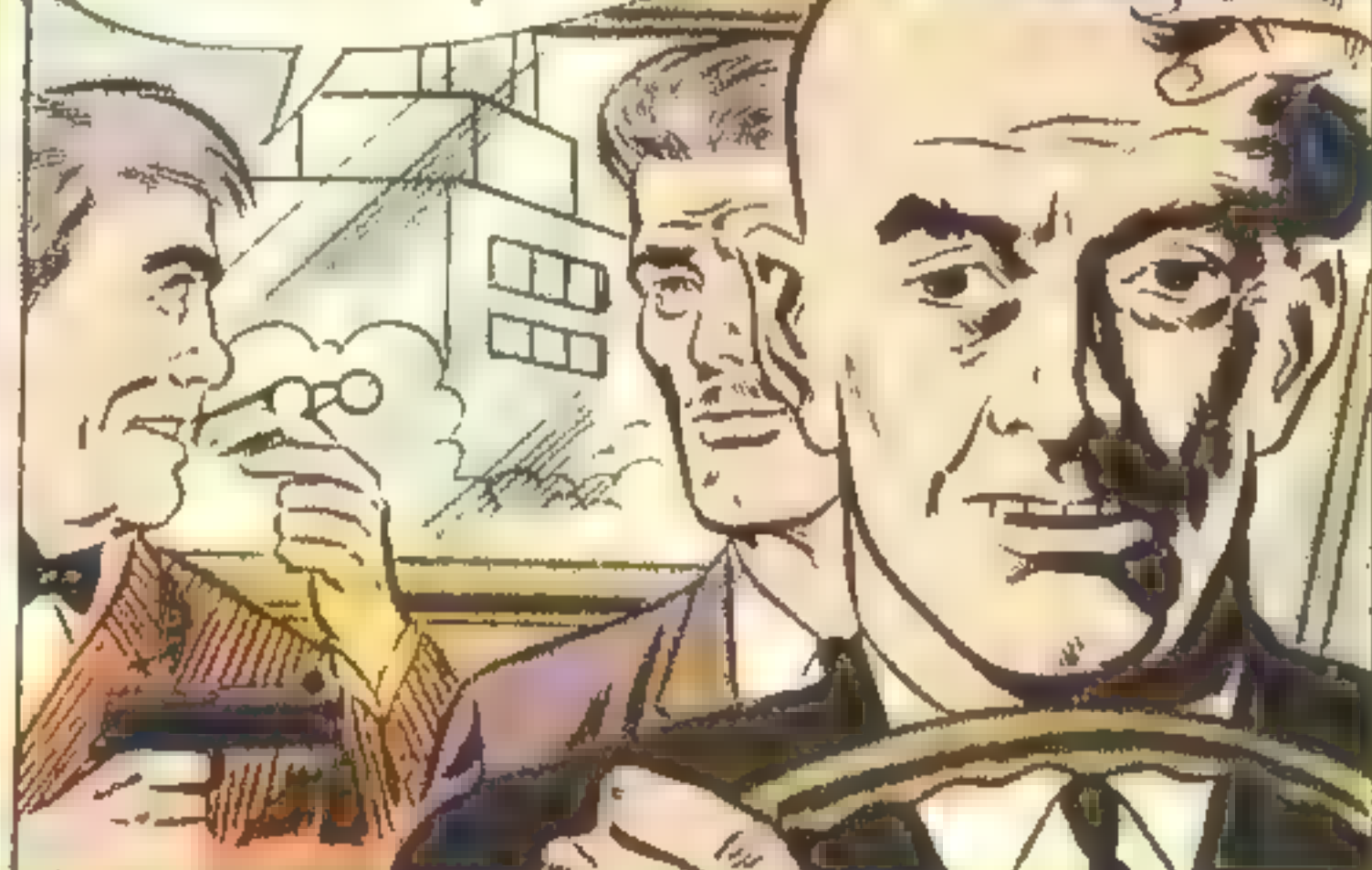
NEED MORE MATERIALS FOR THE GOVERNMENT PROJECT YOU'RE WORKING ON, PROF. SMEDLEY?

YES--LET ME HAVE SOME PLATINUM, SULPHUR, ARGON, IRON, AND TELLURIUM! I'LL SIGN A VOUCHER FOR THEM!



SHORTLY, THE CAR PULLS AWAY...

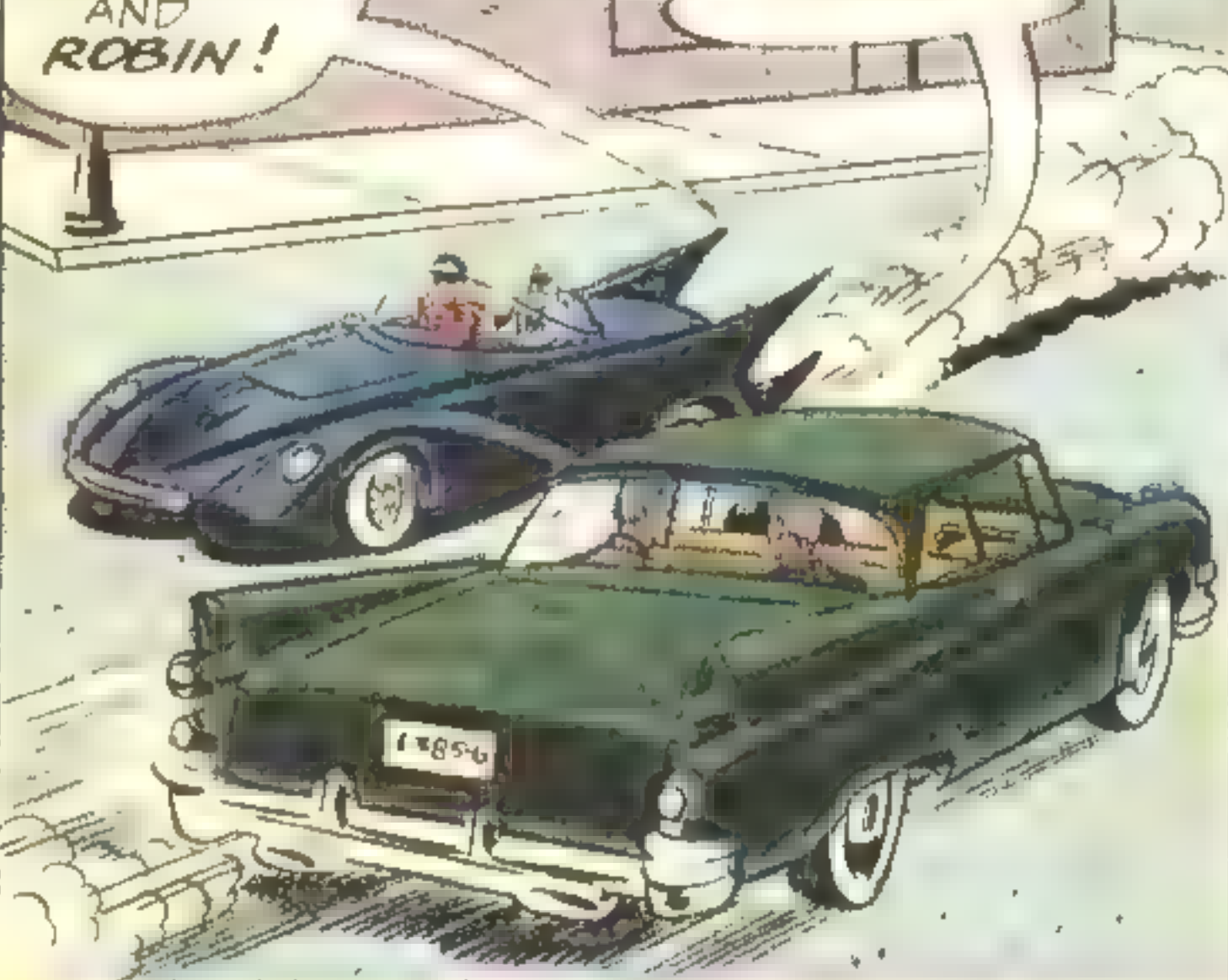
THAT WAS PERFECT! NOBODY SUSPECTS A THING! NOW WE'LL HEAD BACK TO **POINT SAFETY**, WHERE SMEDLEY CAN GO TO WORK!



BUT THEN...

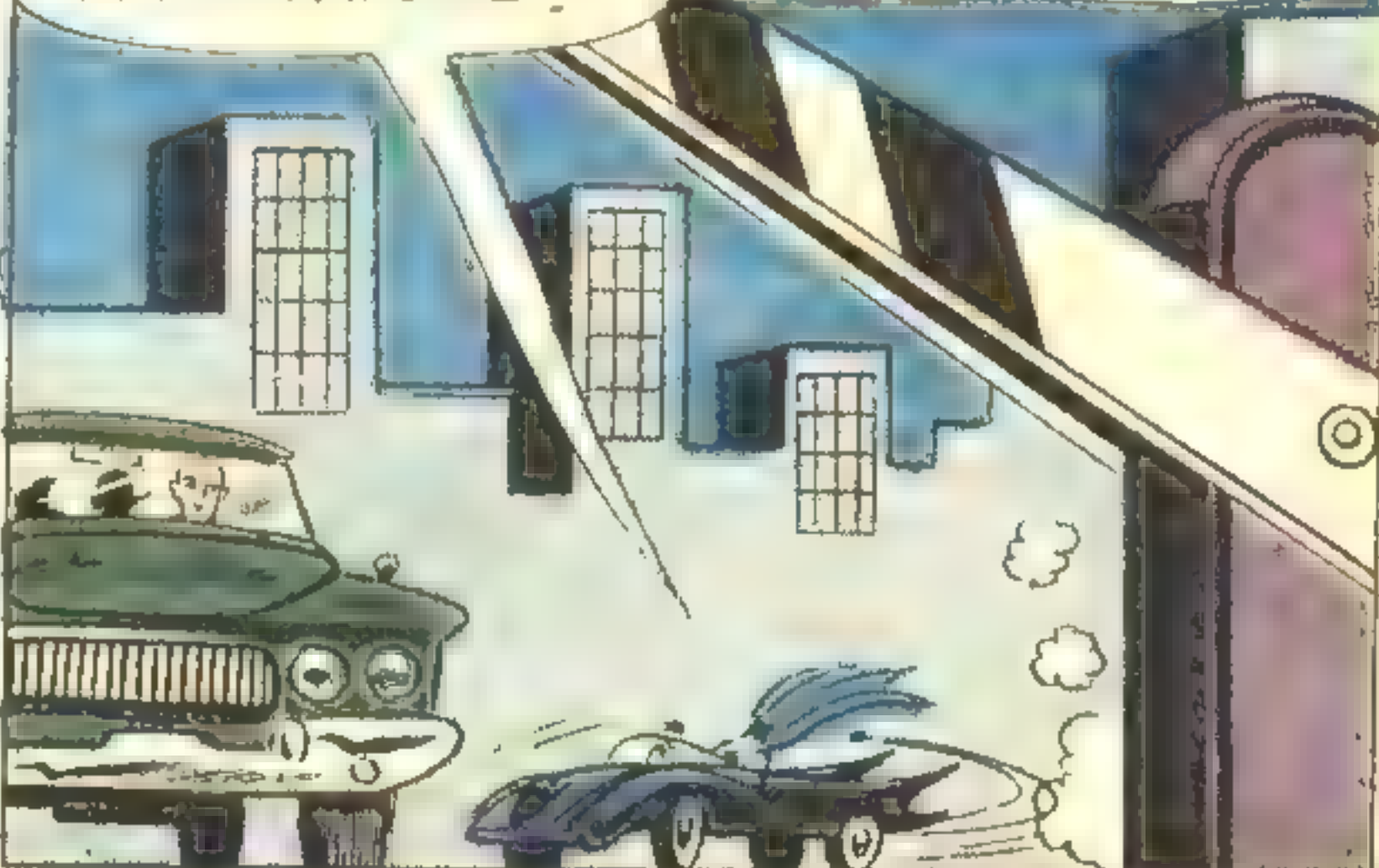
LOOK BATMAN AND ROBIN!

WHY SO JIMPY? I TOLD YOU. NOBODY SUSPECTS A THING!



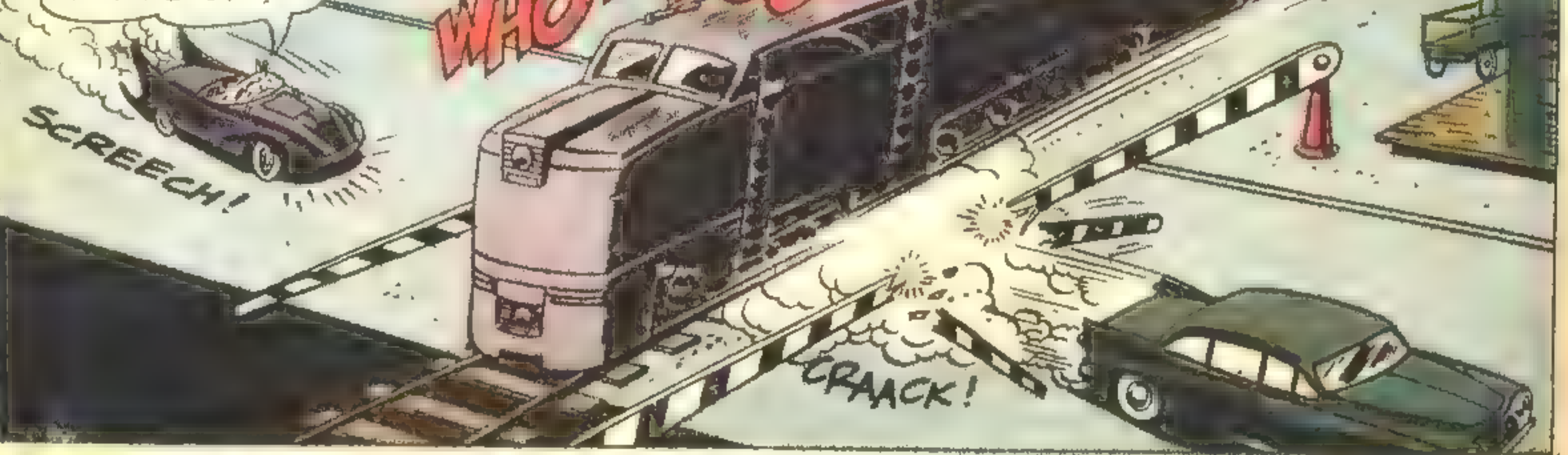
THE BATMOBILE BRAKES TO A SUDDEN STOP, AND...

**ROBIN!** GET THE COMMISSIONER ON THE HOT-LINE! TELL HIM WE SPOTTED SMEDLEY IN A CAR LEAVING THE NORTHSIDE CHEMICAL PLANT! I KNEW HIM FROM PHOTOS IN THE PAPERS!



BUT THE FLEEING CAR CROSSES SOME TRAIN TRACKS, JUST AS...

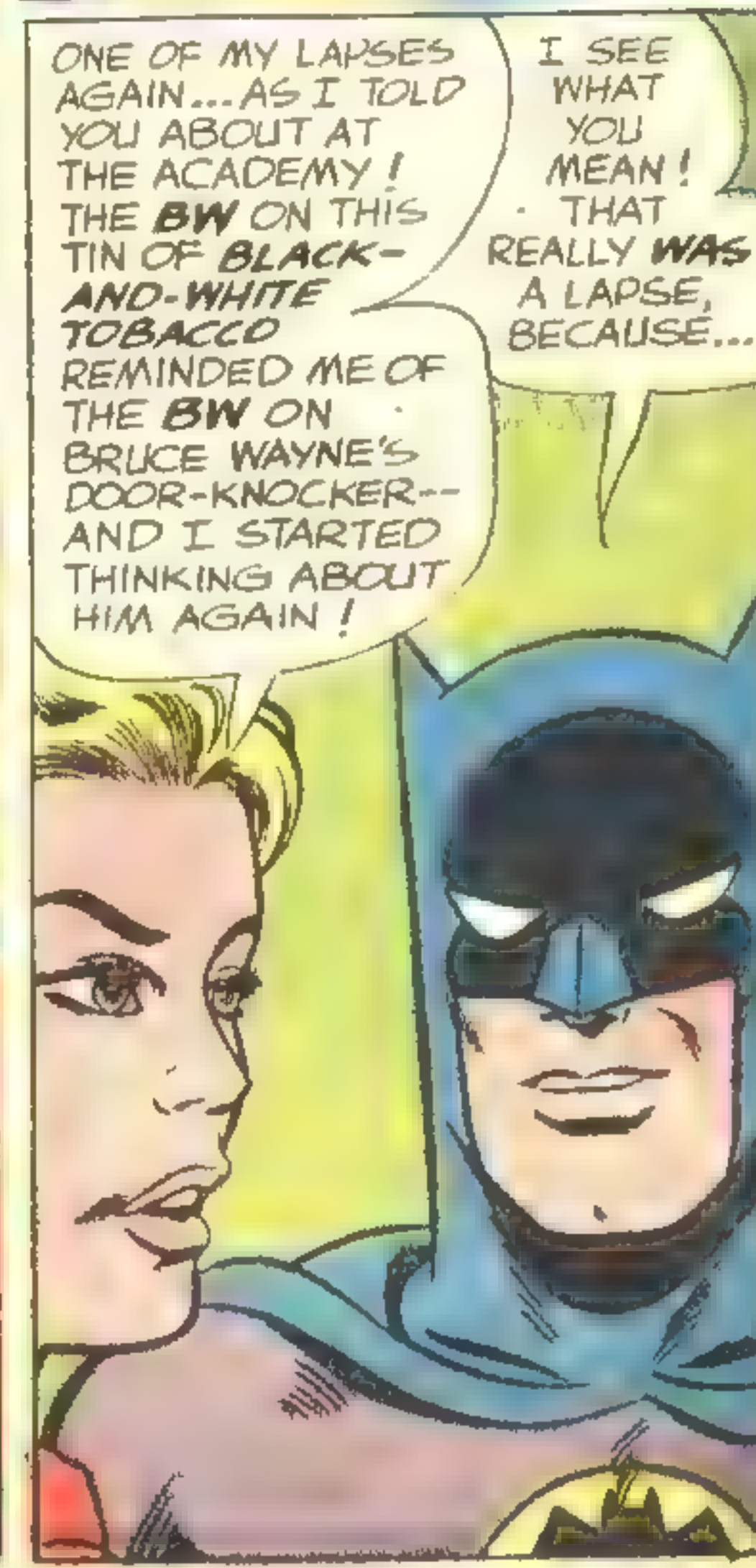
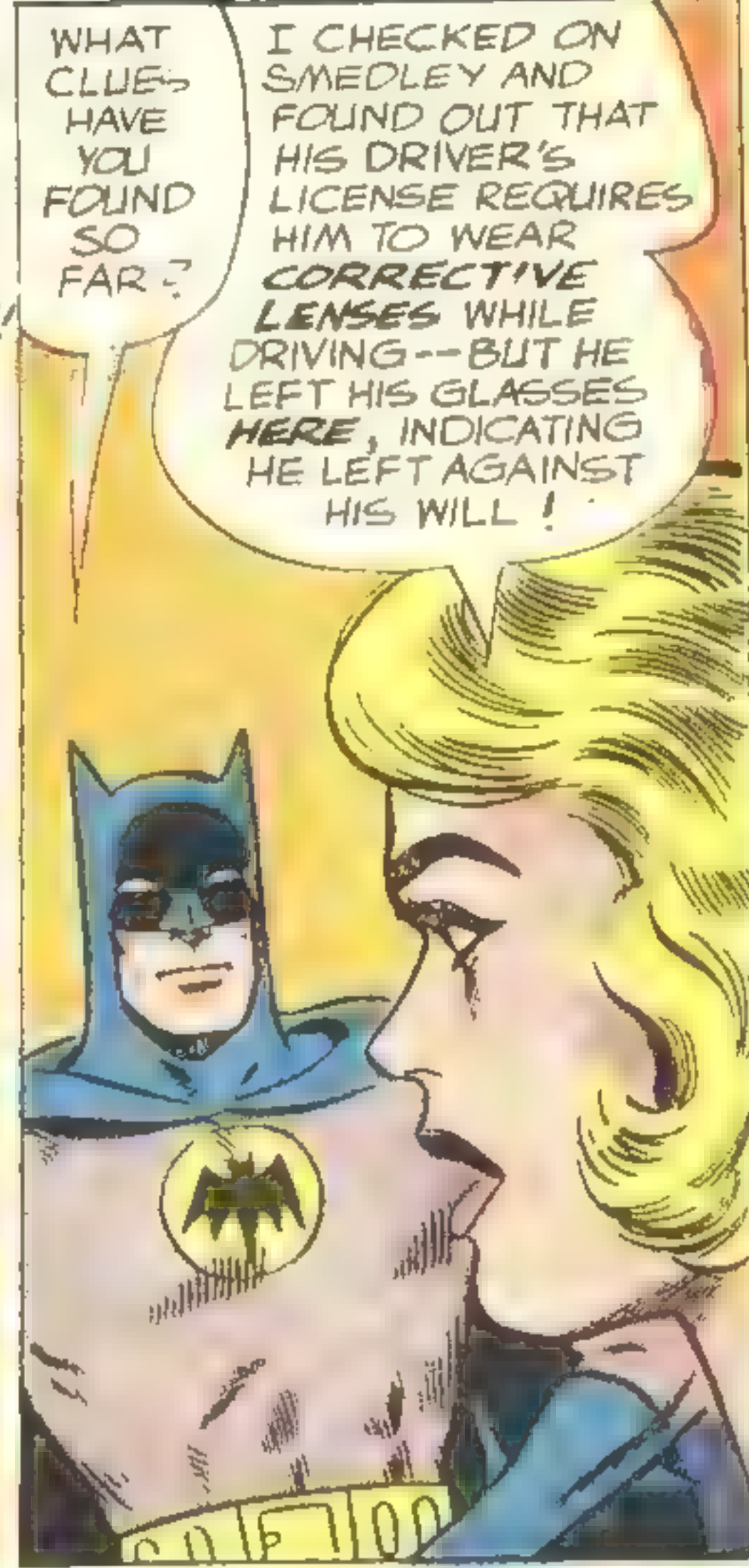
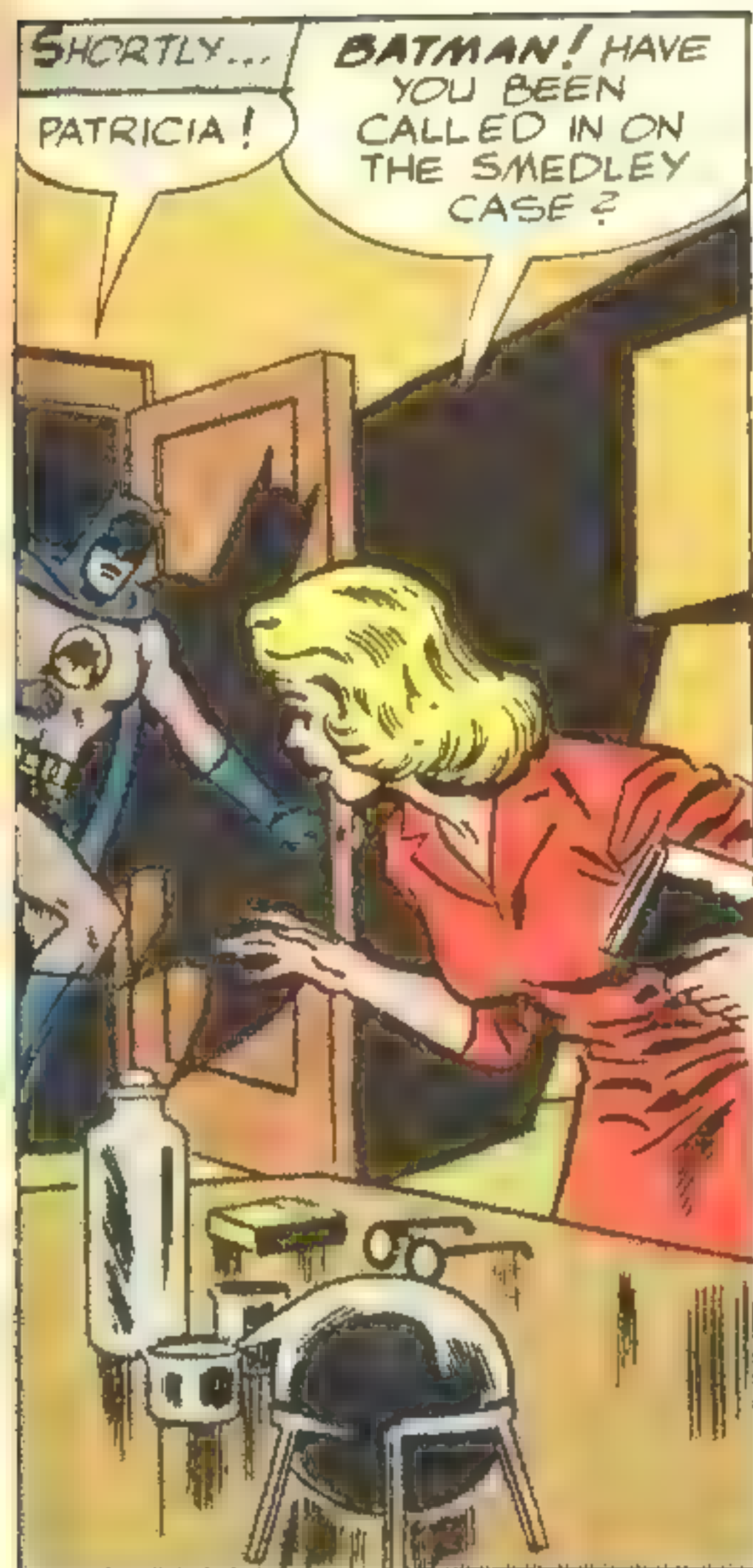
TOUGH BREAK! THEY GOT AWAY! GET BACK TO THE CHEMICAL PLANT, ROBIN, AND FIND OUT WHAT YOU CAN! I'LL GO ON TO SMEDLEY'S HOME, AND SEE WHAT'S UP!



WHO-WHOOOOOO!

SCREECH!

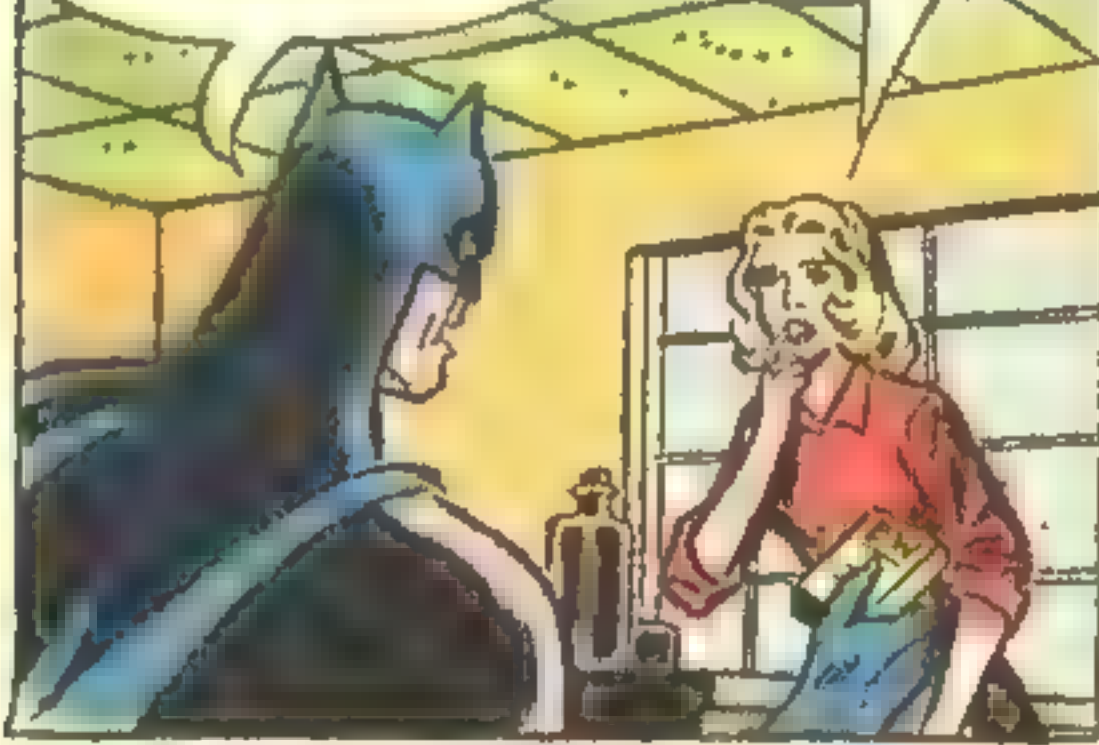
CRACK!



AS THE FAMED CRIME-FIGHTER PICKS UP THE TOBACCO CAN...

...IF YOU'LL NOTICE, THERE'S NOT A SINGLE ASH-TRAY OR PIPE IN THE ROOM! SMEDLEY OBVIOUSLY DOESN'T SMOKE--SO WHY SHOULD HE HAVE A CAN OF TOBACCO? LET'S SEE WHAT'S INSIDE...

THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR THINKING OF BRUCE WAYNE--I OVERLOOKED THE OBVIOUS!



A SMALL TRANSISTOR TAPE RECORDER!

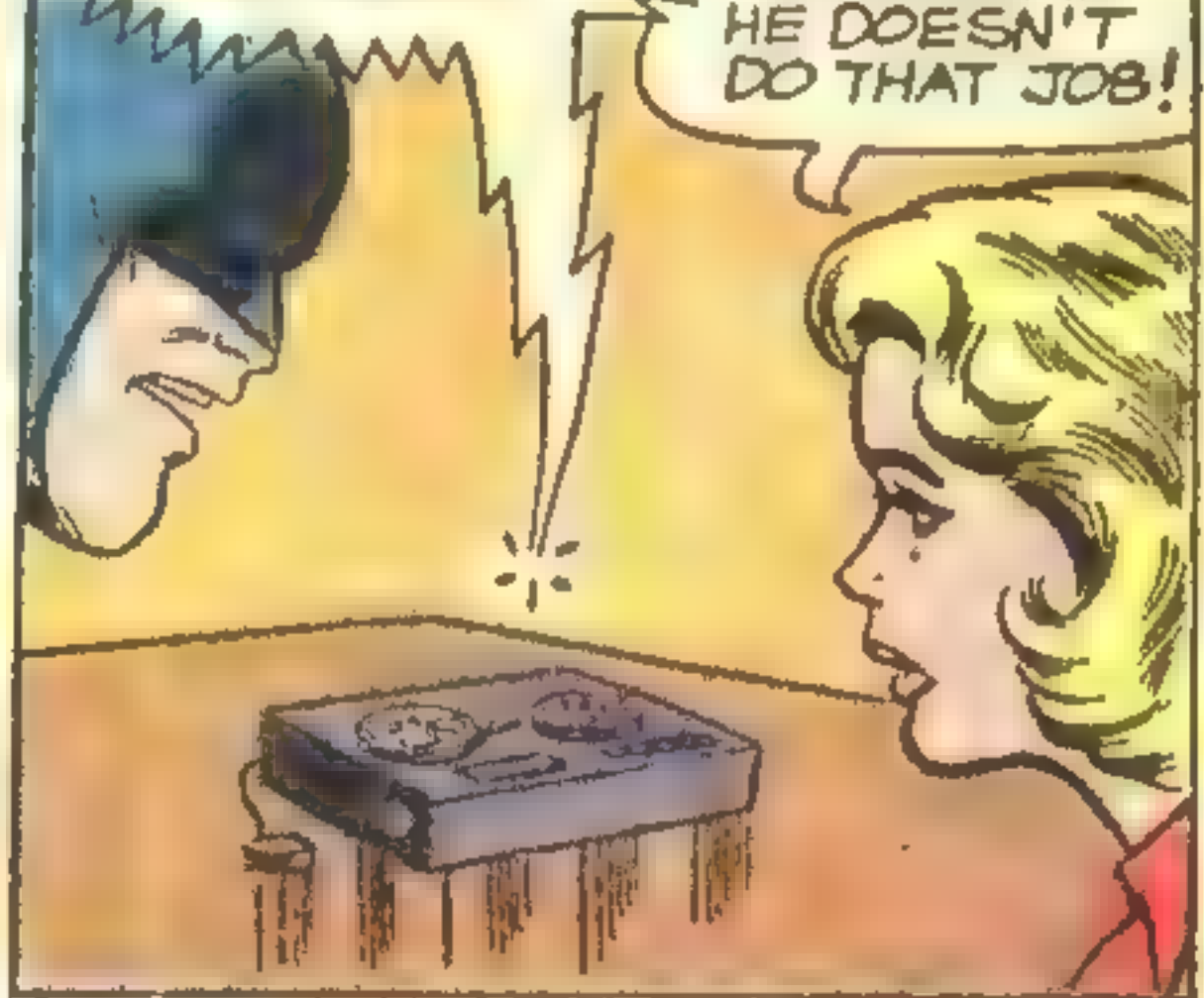
THAT'S PROBABLY HOW HE KEPT HIS SECRET NOTES WHILE WORKING! AND NO SNOOPER WOULD EVER THINK OF LOOKING FOR A TAPE RECORDER IN A TOBACCO CAN! MAYBE WE CAN LEARN SOMETHING FROM A PLAY-BACK!



THEN...

...IT WON'T HURT TO TELL HIM--WE'RE ALONE! WE'VE GOT A JOB FOR YOU--OUT AT THE OLD POINT SAFETY LIGHTHOUSE...

WE'VE HEARD ENOUGH! LET'S GET GOING! SMEDLEY'S LIFE MAY BE IN DANGER IF HE DOESN'T DO THAT JOB!



LESS THAN HALF AN HOUR LATER...

WE CAN'T RISK HARM TO SMEDLEY! I'LL GO ABOVE AND ATTRACT ATTENTION!

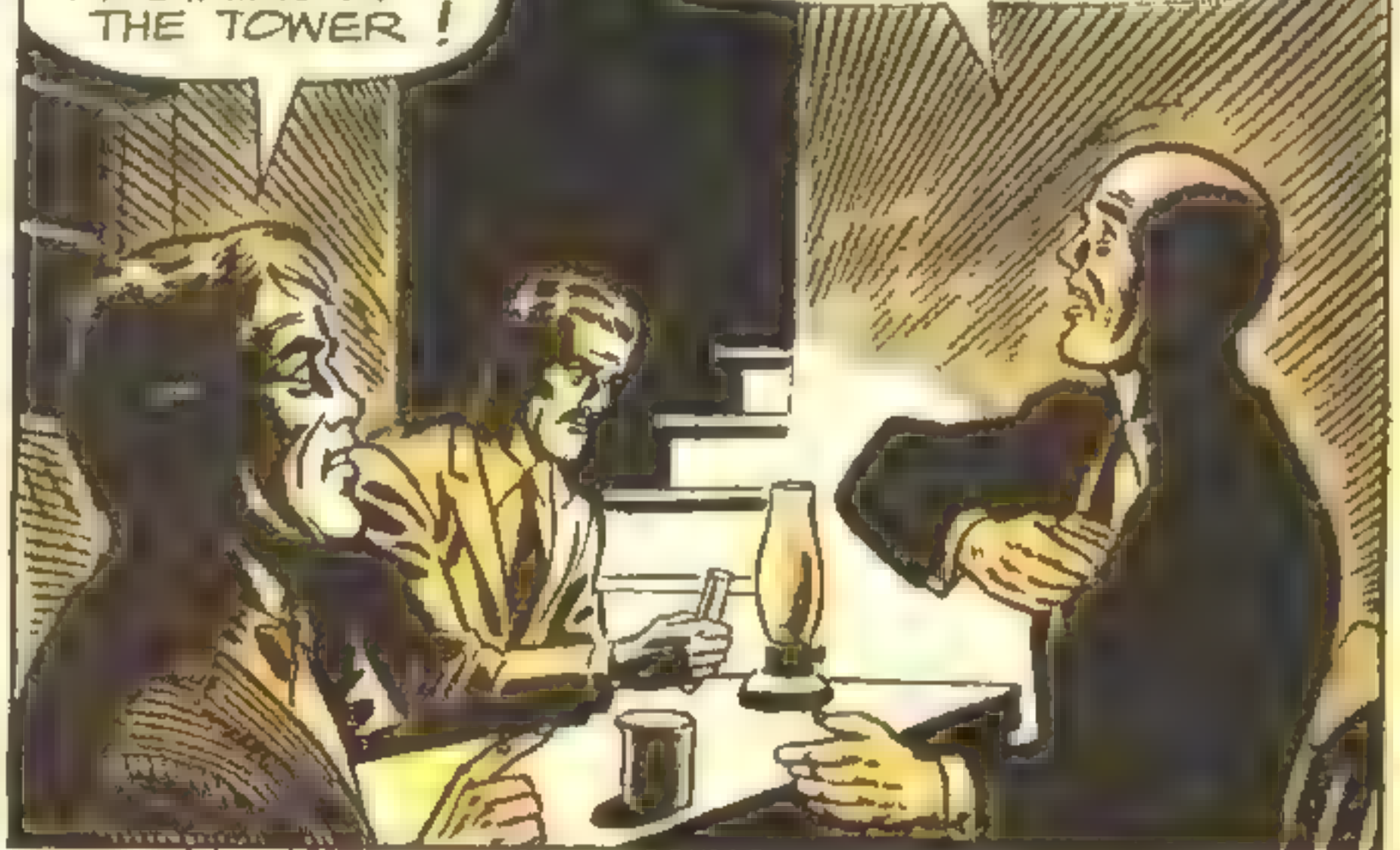
AND WHEN THEY CONCENTRATE ON YOU--I'LL GRAB THE PROFESSOR OUT OF THERE!



SHORTLY, INSIDE...

LISTEN, PETE! SOMEONE'S UPSTAIRS IN THE TOWER!

MAYBE SPYIN' ON US! LET'S GO UP FOR A LOOK! REMEMBER, LET OUR GUNS DO OUR TALKIN'!



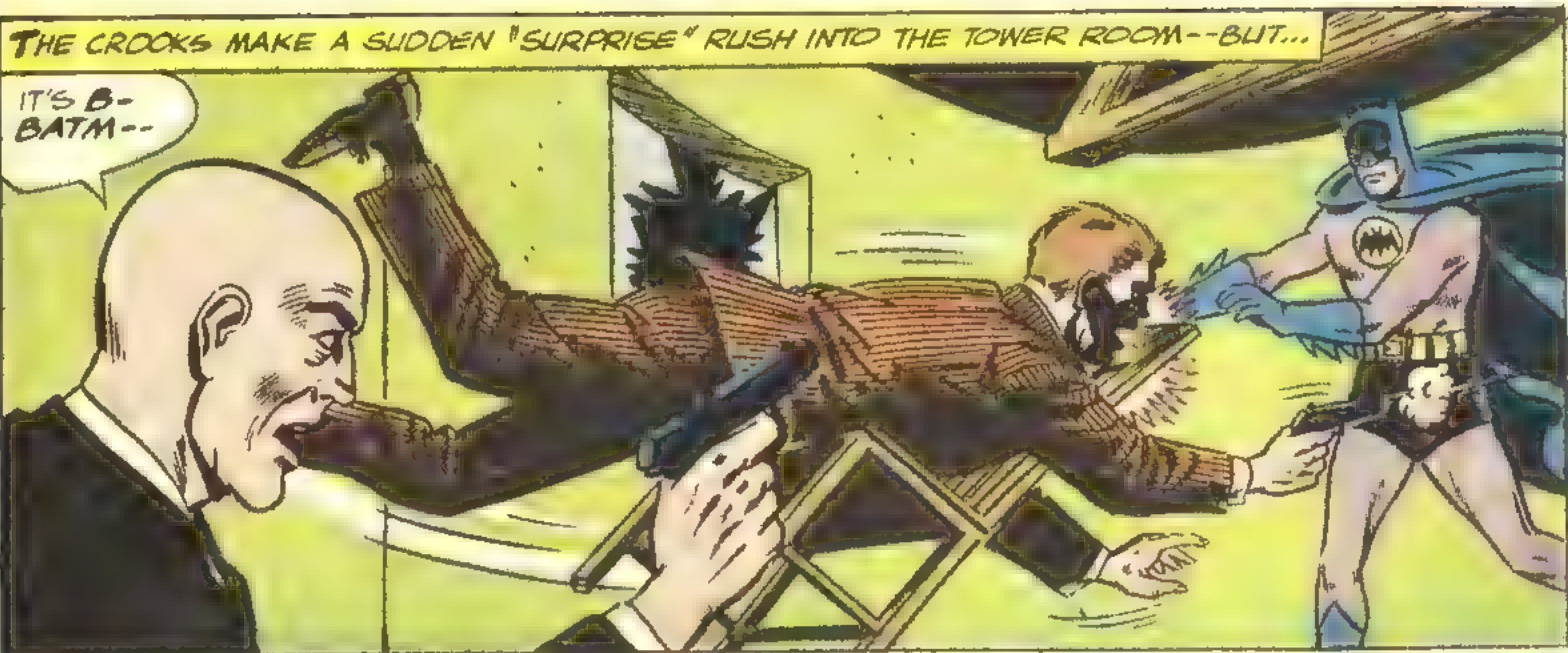
AS THE CROOKS ASCEND THE STAIRWAY...

NO NOISE, PROFESSOR! COME WITH ME! I'M A POLICE WOMAN! HURRY! THERE'LL BE SOME FIREWORKS IN A MOMENT!

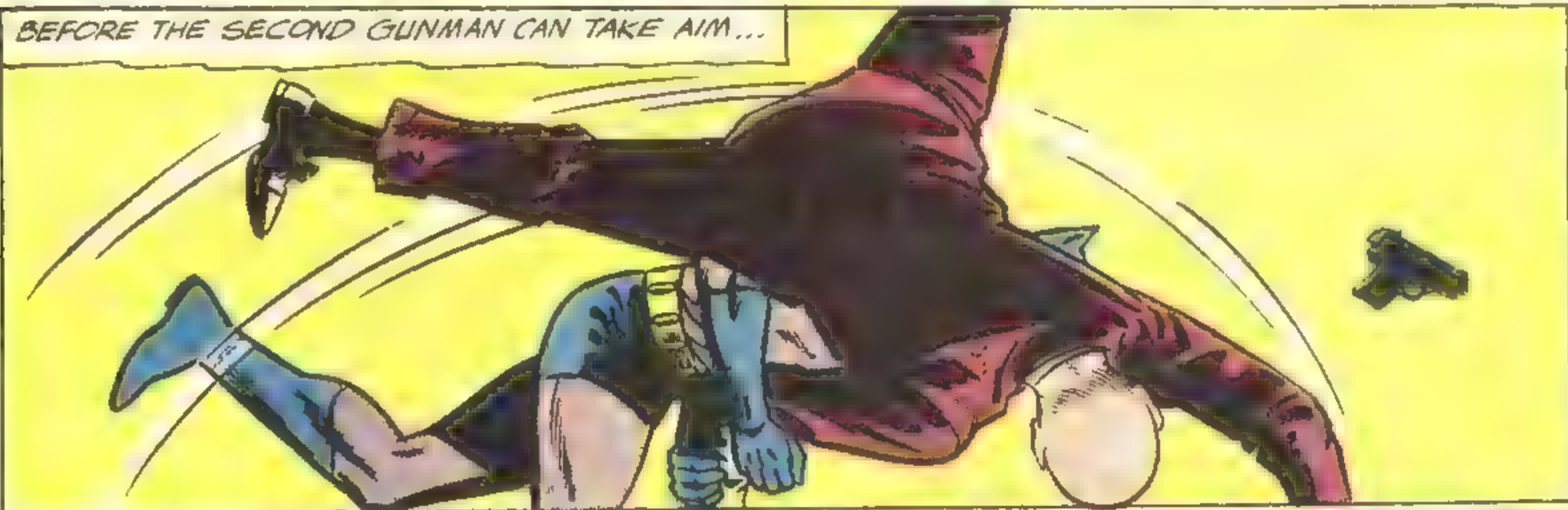


THE CROOKS MAKE A SUDDEN "SURPRISE" RUSH INTO THE TOWER ROOM--BUT...

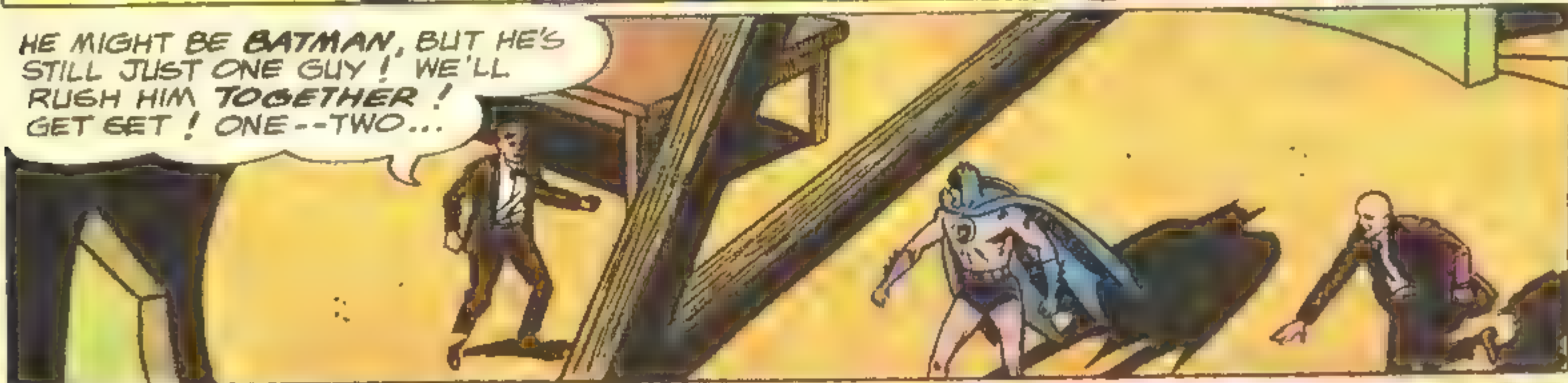
IT'S B-BATM--



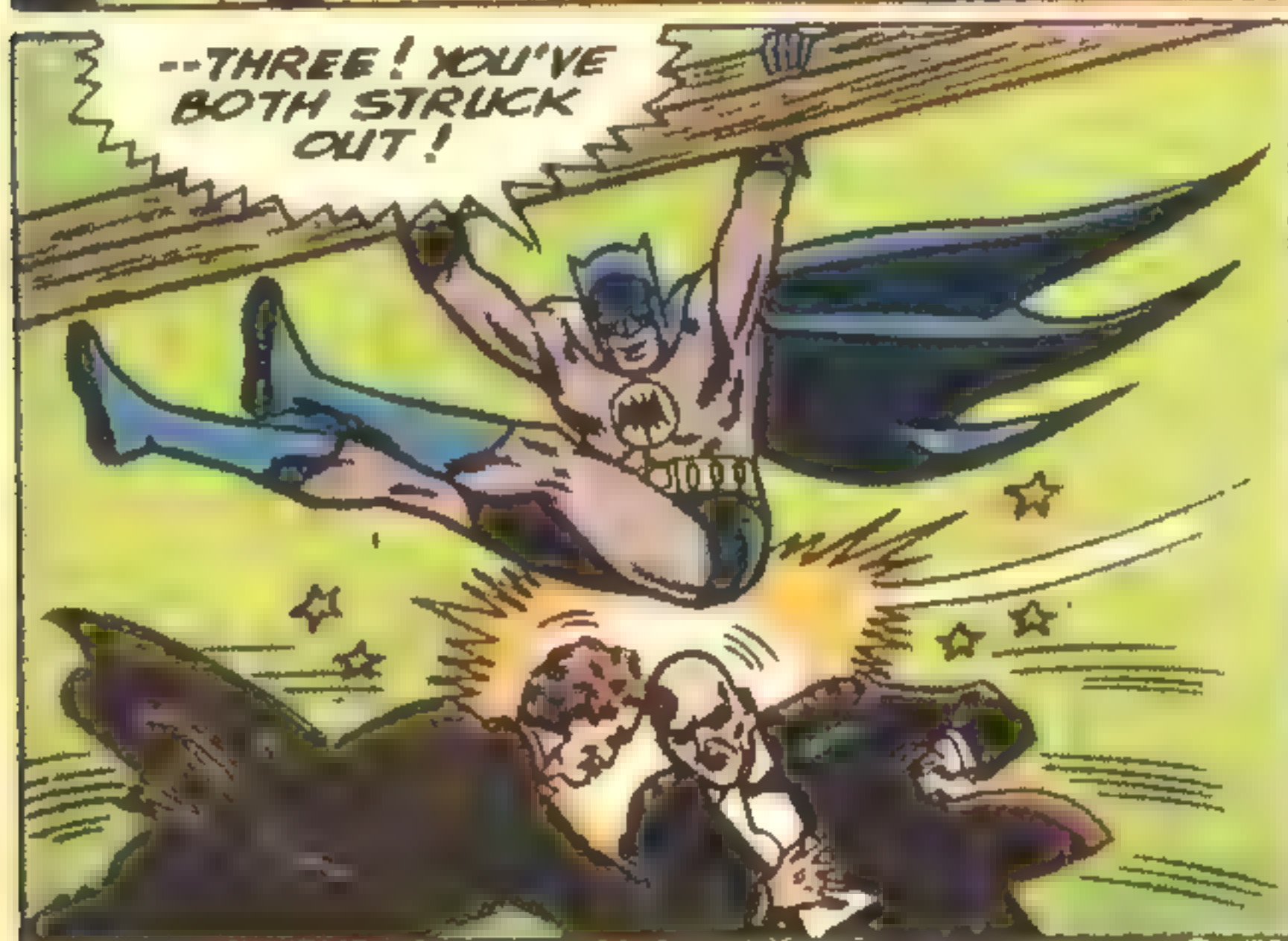
BEFORE THE SECOND GUNMAN CAN TAKE AIM...



HE MIGHT BE BATMAN, BUT HE'S STILL JUST ONE GUY! WE'LL RUSH HIM TOGETHER! GET SET! ONE--TWO...



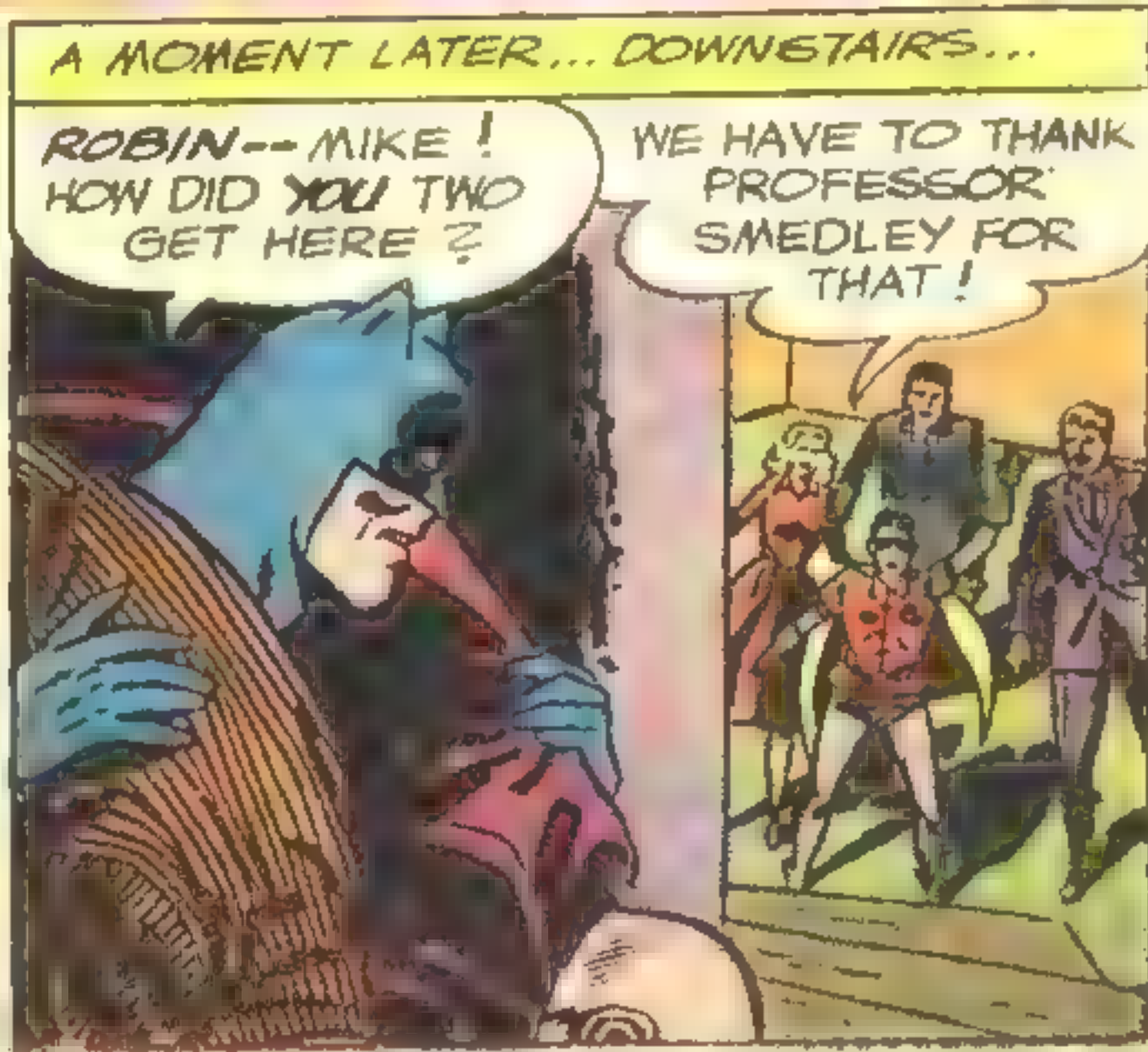
--THREE! YOU'VE BOTH STRUCK OUT!

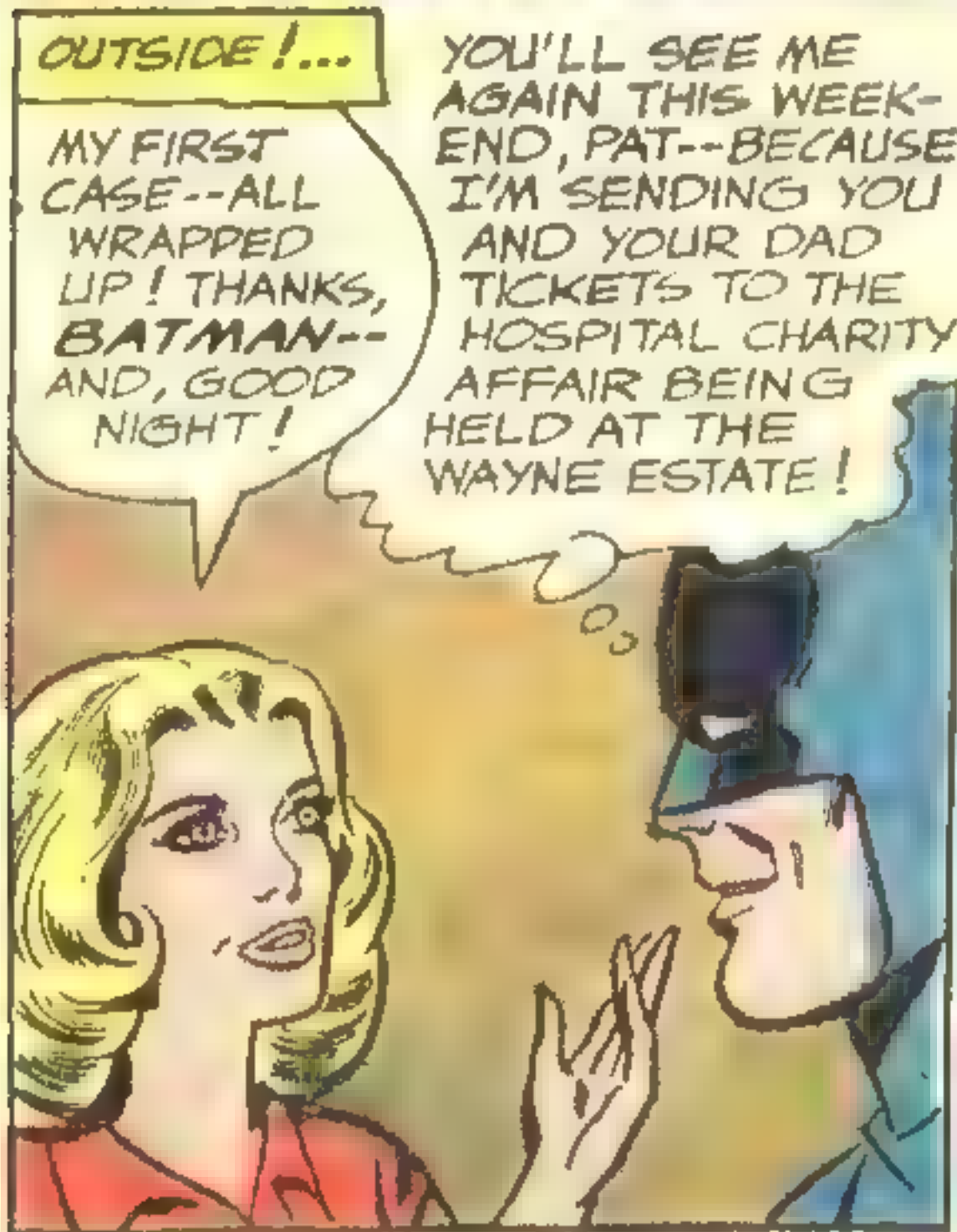
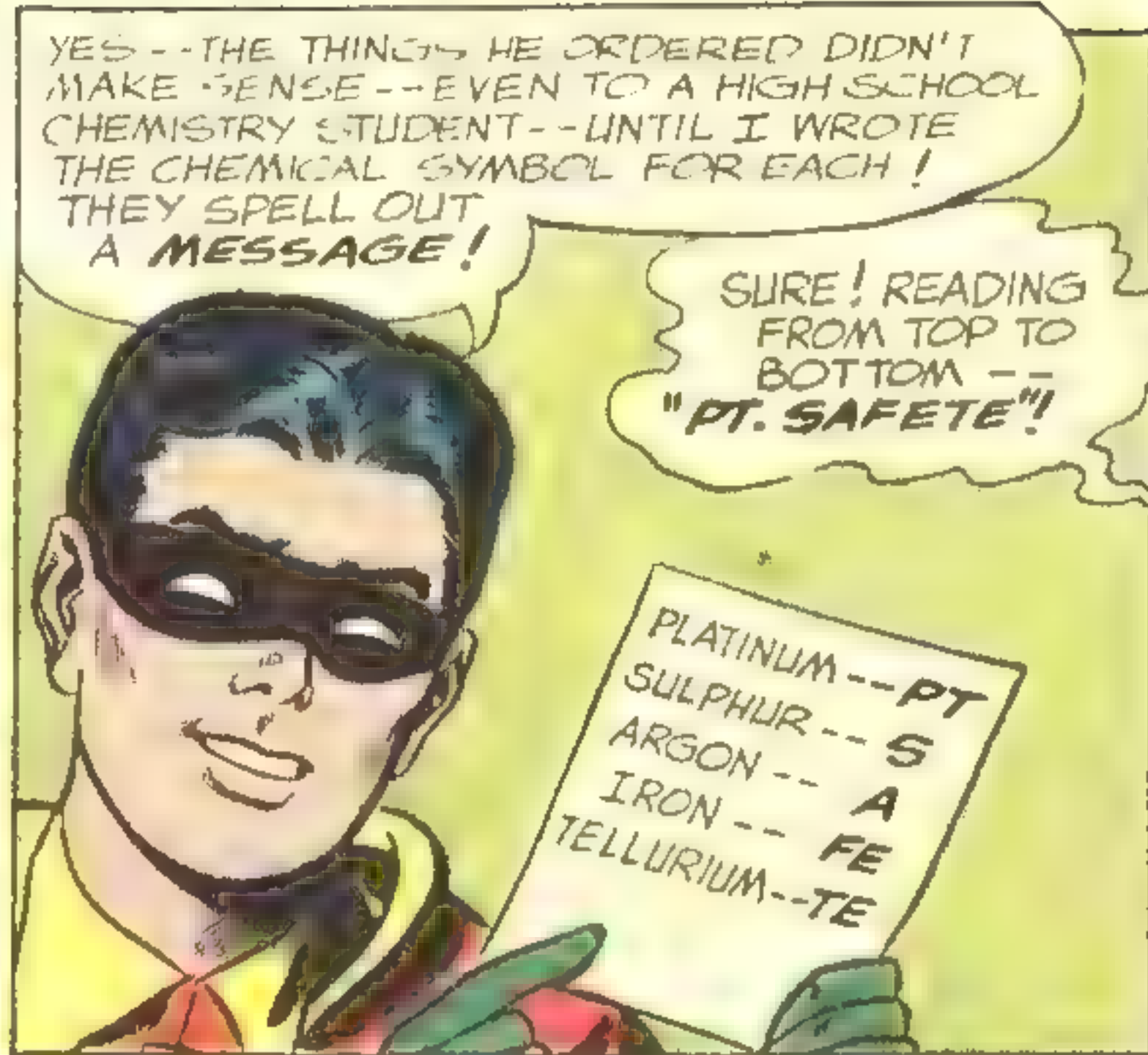
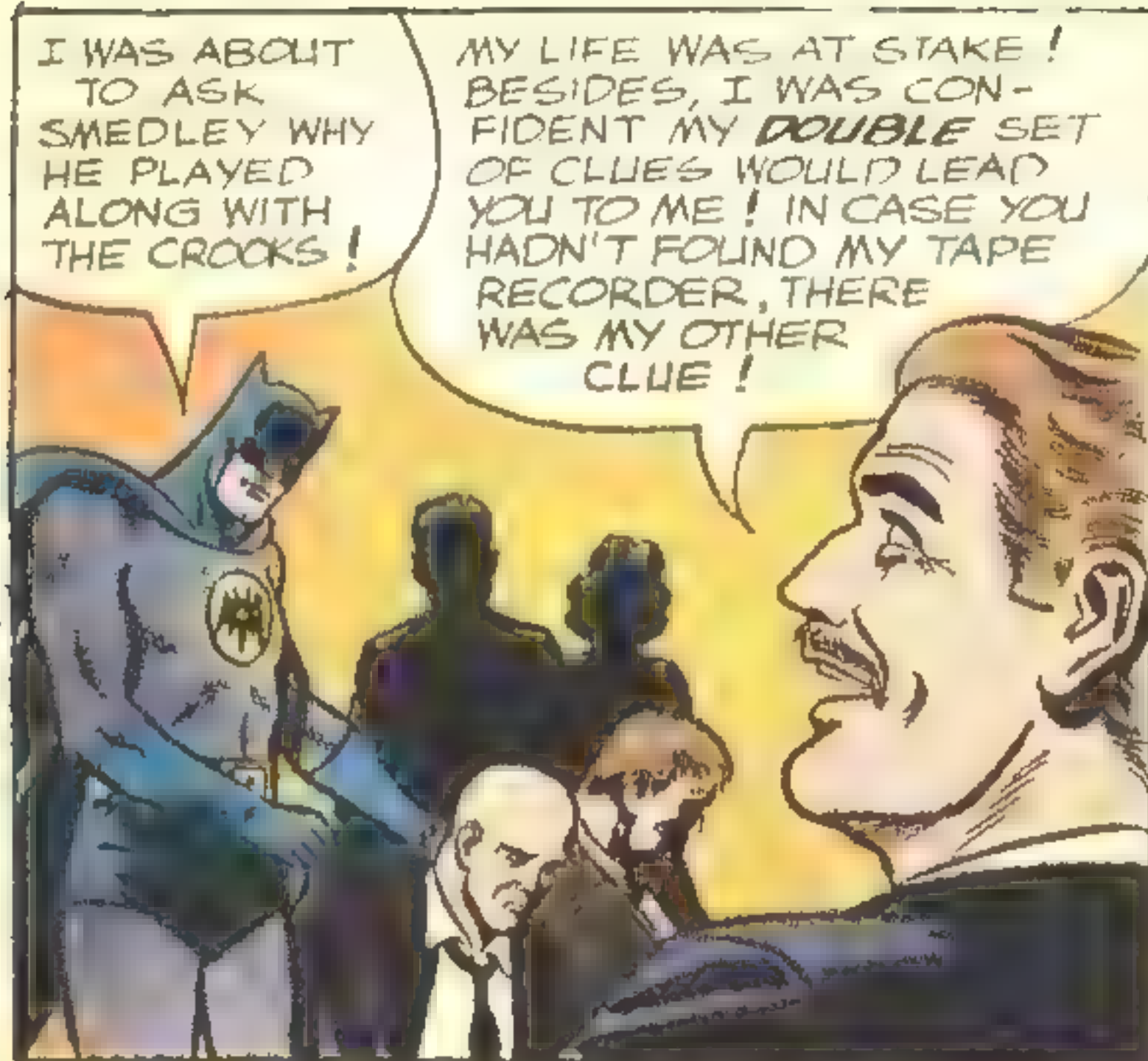


A MOMENT LATER... DOWNSTAIRS...

ROBIN--MIKE! HOW DID YOU TWO GET HERE?

WE HAVE TO THANK PROFESSOR SMEDLEY FOR THAT!





PAT MET BRUCE AT LAST, FACE TO FACE... BUT NO GREAT ROMANCE DEVELOPED!



WILL YOU MEET THIS CHALLENGE AND **DARE** THE GLARE of the

**GHOSTLY GUARDIAN?**

AND WHO IS THIS GIRL WHO IS KISSING BATMAN?



HER STORY BEGAN ON A SUSPENSION BRIDGE OVER THE GOTHAM RIVER...

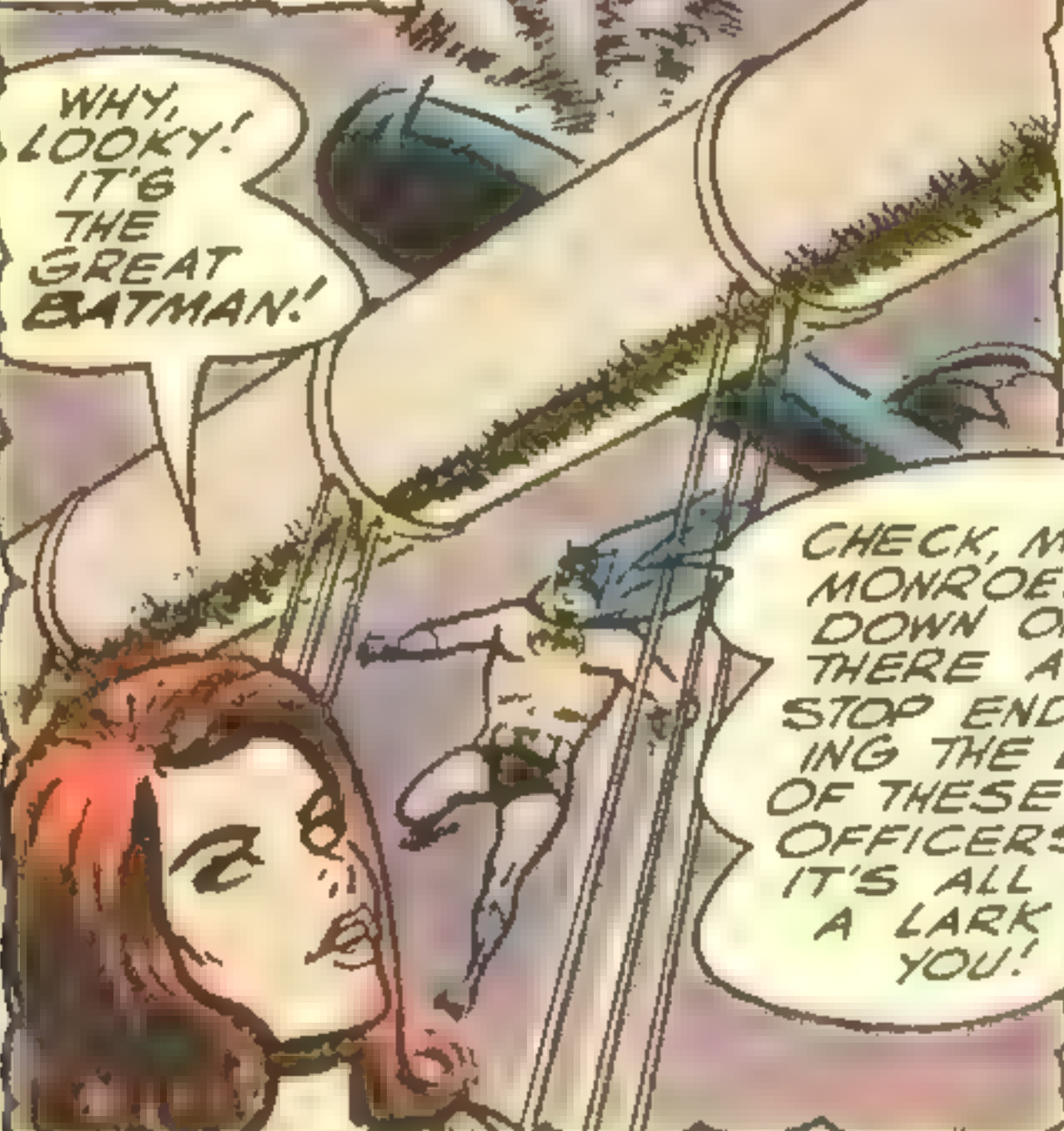


LONDON BRIDGE IS FALLING DOWN-- FALLING DOWN... LA-DAH-DE-DAH!

COME DOWN, MISS MONROE! YOU'LL KILL YOURSELF!

CAN'T GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO GRAB HER-- THAT CRAZY PLAYGIRL!

SUDDENLY...



WHY, LOOKY! IT'S THE GREAT BATMAN!

CHECK, MISS MONROE! COME DOWN OFF THERE AND STOP ENDANGERING THE LIVES OF THESE OFFICERS! IT'S ALL JUST A LARK TO YOU!

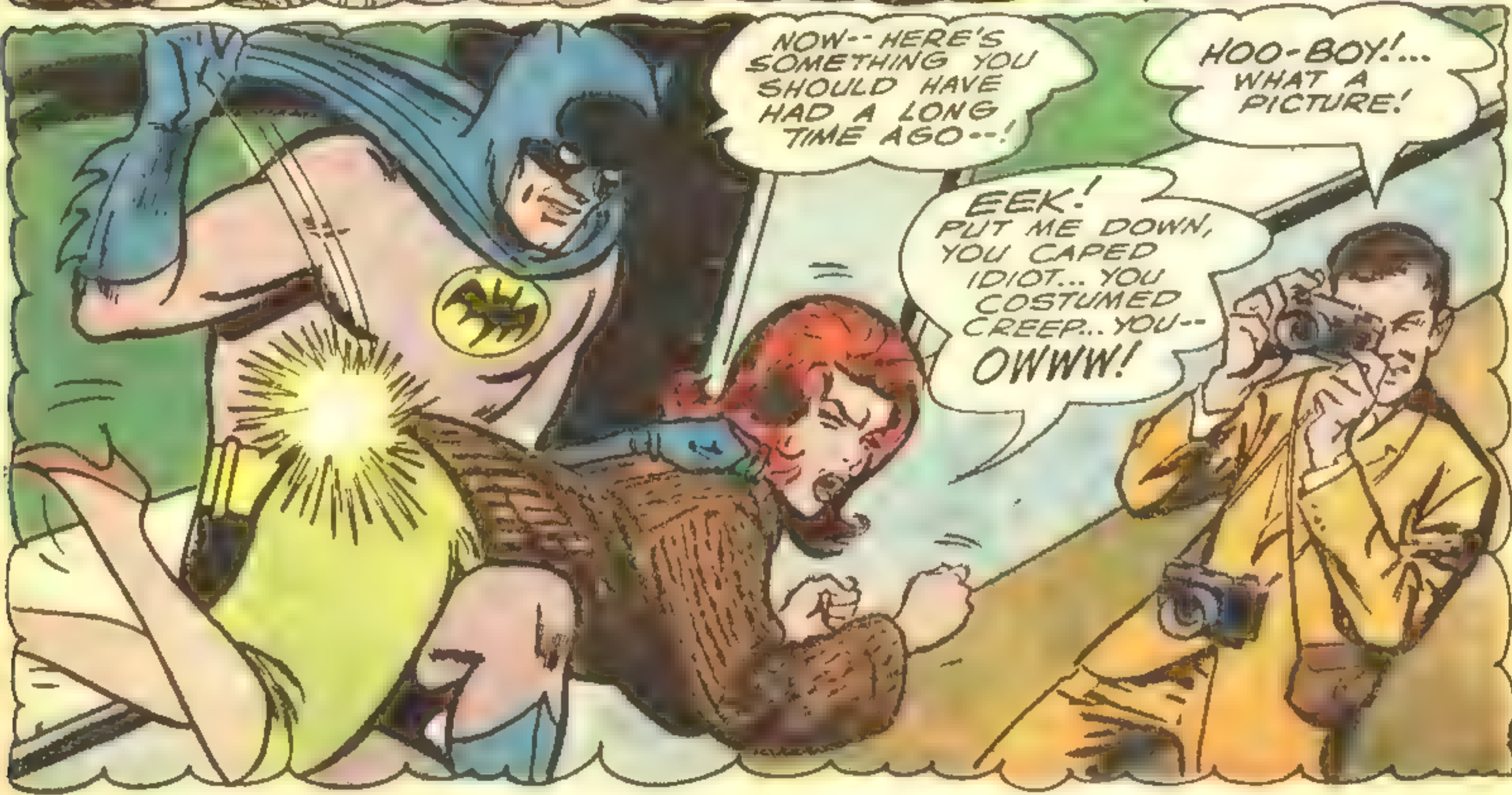
OH, SKIP THE SQUARE LECTURE, BATMAN... NO ONE TELLS MARCIA MONROE WHAT TO DO!

YOUR MONEY AND INFLUENCE DON'T IMPRESS ME, HONEY... GOT YOU!

NOW-- HERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD HAVE HAD A LONG TIME AGO--!

HOO-BOY!... WHAT A PICTURE!

EEK! PUT ME DOWN, YOU CAPED IDIOT... YOU COSTUMED CREEP... YOU-- OWWW!



NEXT DAY, IN THE MANSION OF "IDLE PLAYBOY" BRUCE WAYNE...

BUT THAT NIGHT, AS THE CAPED CRUSADER PROWLED THE CONCRETE JUNGLE KNOWN AS GOTHAM CITY...

HA-HA!... MARCIA WON'T FORGET THIS LESSON SO SOON! TOO BAD SHE WASTES HER LIFE... SHE'S LOADED WITH BEAUTY AND SPIRIT! WELL, I... BATMAN, THAT IS... WILL NEVER SEE HER AGAIN, I HOPE!

DAILY BLADE  
BATMAN HUMILIATES  
FAMED PLAYGIRL

HAW!...  
IT'S BEDDY  
BYE TIME,  
BATMAN!

CRACK

BEE OOW

YIIII! MY  
BATMAN  
BELTER'S  
TURNED  
TO TOOTH-  
PICKS...  
OOF!

MARCIA  
MONROE!  
YOU--! BUT  
WHY...?

BECAUSE  
I ADMIRE  
YOU,  
BATMAN!  
YOU'RE  
THE FIRST  
MAN I  
COULD  
EVER LOOK  
UP TO! I'VE  
BEEN TRAILING  
YOU ON YOUR  
ANTI-CRIME  
ROUNDS! YOU  
NEEDED  
HELP-- I'M A  
CRACK PISTOL  
SHOT--  
AND SO...

WELL, WELL! MAYBE I WAS  
WRONG ABOUT YOU--!  
BUT YOU'D BETTER NOT  
MAKE CRIME-FIGHTING  
A HABIT... IT'S TOO  
DANGEROUS FOR A  
GIRL!

WHY, BATMAN--  
YOU CAN ALSO  
BE PROTECTIVE!  
I LOVE  
THAT  
IN A  
MAN!

HAVE  
A BELT  
ON ME,  
CHUM!

AND IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED...

MORE CROOKS CORRALLED BY BATMAN--WITH THE HELP OF MARCIA MONROE! WHO WOULD HAVE EVER THOUGHT IT!

DIAMOND WATCH JEWELRY

"LUCKY GUY" WAS RIGHT--FOR AROUND THE CORNER...

DARLING--HERE I AM SO IN LOVE WITH YOU, AND I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE!

YEAH--THEY'VE BECOME INSEPARABLE! HE'S SURE REFORMED HER--THE LUCKY GUY!

SWEETHEART, YOU'LL KNOW MY SECRET IDENTITY. THE DAY YOU TAKE MY REAL NAME--AS MY WIFE!

BUT SHORTLY AFTERWARD...

WHAT'S WITH BATMAN? MUST'VE BEEN A "DEAR JOHN" LETTER THAT GORGEOUS CHICK ASKED ME TO GIVE HIM!

MARCIA... SHE'S BROKEN OUR ENGAGEMENT... GONE TO EUROPE... GONE BACK TO HER USELESS, SELFISH, PLAYGIRL LIFE! I GUESS THE "CURE" DIDN'T TAKE... BUT WHO HAS A CURE FOR BATMAN'S BROKEN HEART?

IT WAS WORSE THAN BATMAN THOUGHT... MARCIA BECAME A CRIMINAL...THE QUEEN BEE!

HELP! POLICE! MY JEWELS!

THOSE WEIRD BEE CHARACTERS SNATCHED EVERY GEM IN SIGHT!

STOP 'EM!

AS AN OPERATIVE OF AN OUTFIT CALLED CYCLOPS, MARCIA TEAMED UP WITH THAT ARCH-VILLAIN, ECLIPSO...THE JEKYLL-HYDE BADDIE!

THE MAN FROM C.Y.C.L.O.P.S., THE INTERNATIONAL, ALL-POWERFUL CRIME SYNDICATE, HAS JUST INFORMED ECLIPSO AND QUEEN BEE THAT THEIR CRIMINAL SERVICES WILL NO LONGER BE NEEDED-- AND THIS MAKES OLD "DOUBLE FACE" REAL MAD! IN FACT, HE'S TRYING TO PUT THE TRIPLE WHAMMY ON THE GUY FROM THE "BIG EYE"...

REPLACE ECLIPSO? CORRECTION-- IT IS YOU WHO WILL BE REPLACED-- BY MY BLACK GEM'S POWER!

WHA-RAH!

SMASH HIM, ECLIPSO! IF HE ESCAPES, WE'LL BE VISITED BY THE EXECUTION SQUAD WITHIN 24 HOURS!

FOOL! DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN DEFEAT CYCLOPS?

BUT NOW, AS THE "AGENT" SPRINTS DOWN A NEARBY CORRIDOR...

DON'T WORRY, QUEEN BEE -- I NEVER FAIL, ONCE I ZERO IN. HIS HOOD CAME OFF... HUH--? IT'S...

BATMAN!

YOU LIKE TRICKS, BATMAN? THEN HERE'S ONE...

WH--WHAT? THE CORRIDOR FLOOR-- MOVING AT TOP SPEED!

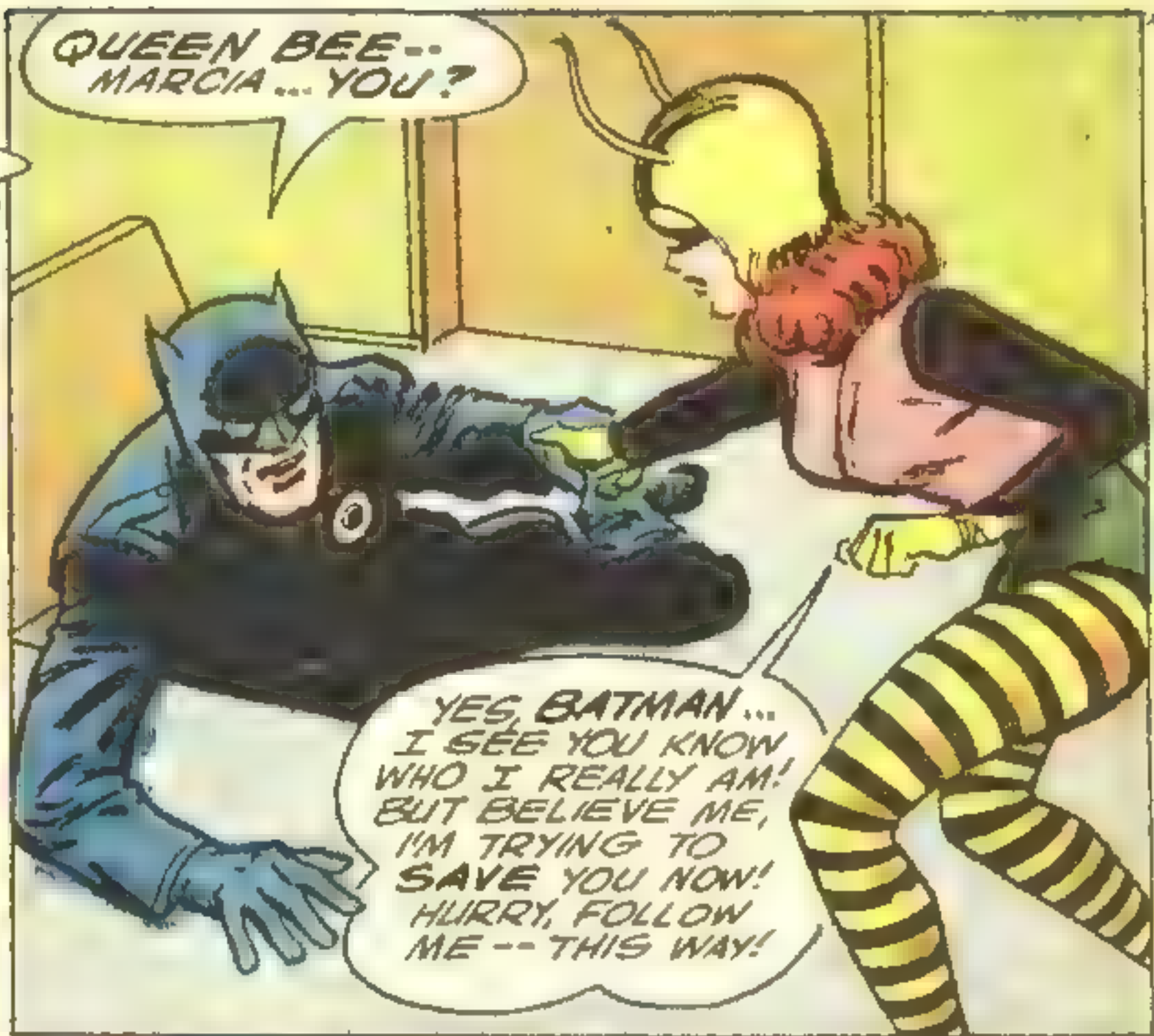
HA! HA! HA! HA!



HIS TRUE IDENTITY EXPOSED, THE CAPED CRUSADER IS SENT RUSHING BACK TOWARD HIS WAITING FOE, WHEN...

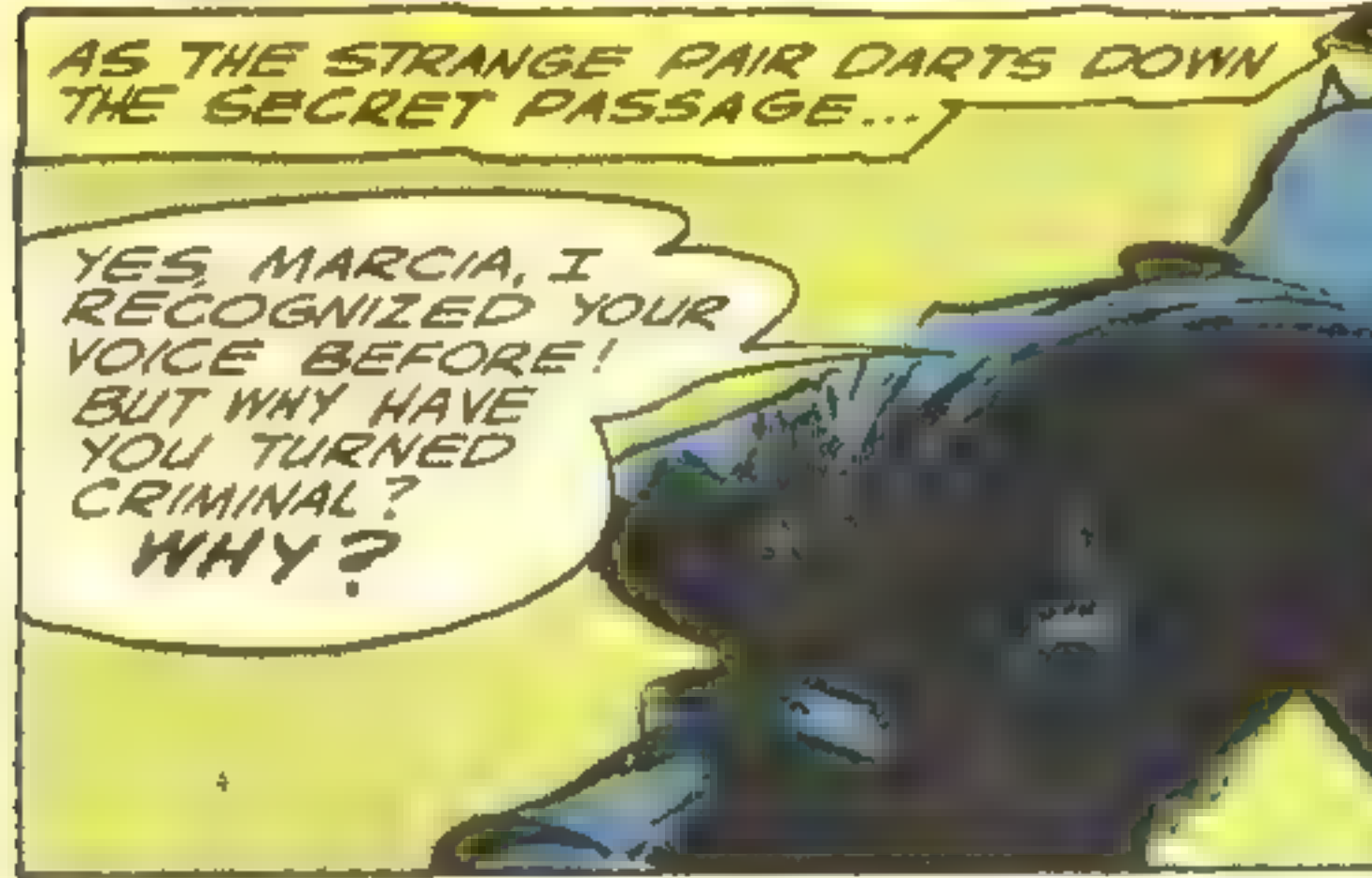
BATMAN UP HERE!

ANOTHER SECOND AND I'LL BE IN RANGE OF ECLIPSO'S BOLTS! THEN IT'S... BYE-BYE BATMAN! I-- WAIT... A HAND!



QUEEN BEE-- MARCIA... YOU?

YES, BATMAN... I SEE YOU KNOW WHO I REALLY AM! BUT BELIEVE ME, I'M TRYING TO SAVE YOU NOW! HURRY, FOLLOW ME-- THIS WAY!



AS THE STRANGE PAIR DARTS DOWN THE SECRET PASSAGE...

YES, MARCIA, I RECOGNIZED YOUR VOICE BEFORE! BUT WHY HAVE YOU TURNED CRIMINAL? WHY?

I... I HAD TO, BATMAN! MY FATHER GOT INVOLVED WITH CYCLOPS! TO KEEP HIS NAME CLEAR AND SAVE HIM FROM DEATH BY THEIR ASSASSINS, I AGREED TO COOPERATE WITH THEM-- BECOME "QUEEN" OF THIS CRIME HIVE!



I ONLY WANTED TO PUT YOU BEHIND BARS-- OUT OF THE WAY OF TROUBLE! I NEVER DREAMED YOU'D TURN UP THIS WAY AND TANGLE WITH ECLIPSO!



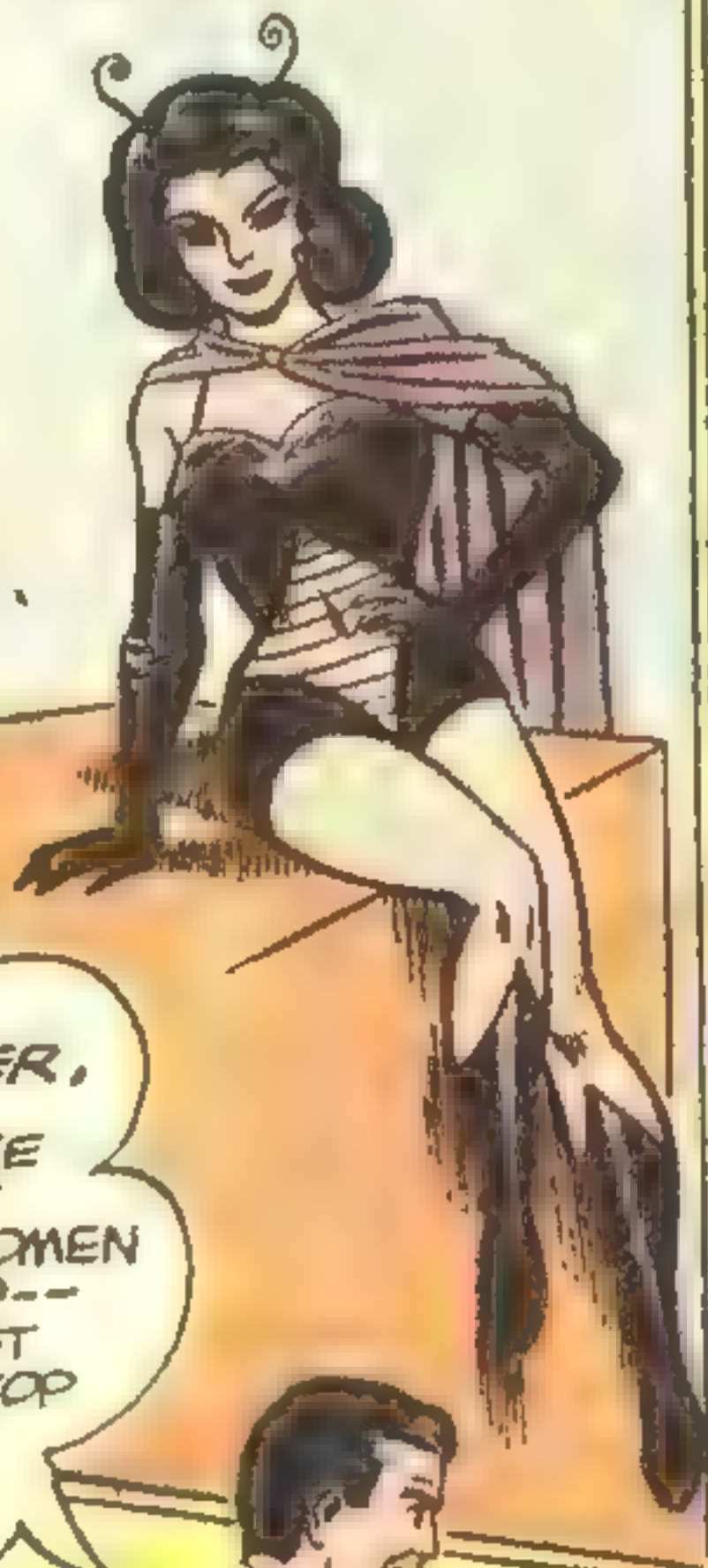
SO SUDDENLY YOU TURN ALL GOODY-GOODY! KIND OF LATE, BABY, ISN'T IT?

OH, DARLING-- PLEASE TRY TO UNDERSTAND... I HAD NO CHOICE! ONCE CAUGHT IN CYCLOPS' WEB THERE'S NO ESCAPE! I HATED DOING IT TO YOU-- THE ONLY MAN I'VE EVER LOVED! THIS DOOR--IT LEADS TO THE WEAPONS ROOM... PLEASE SAVE YOURSELF!

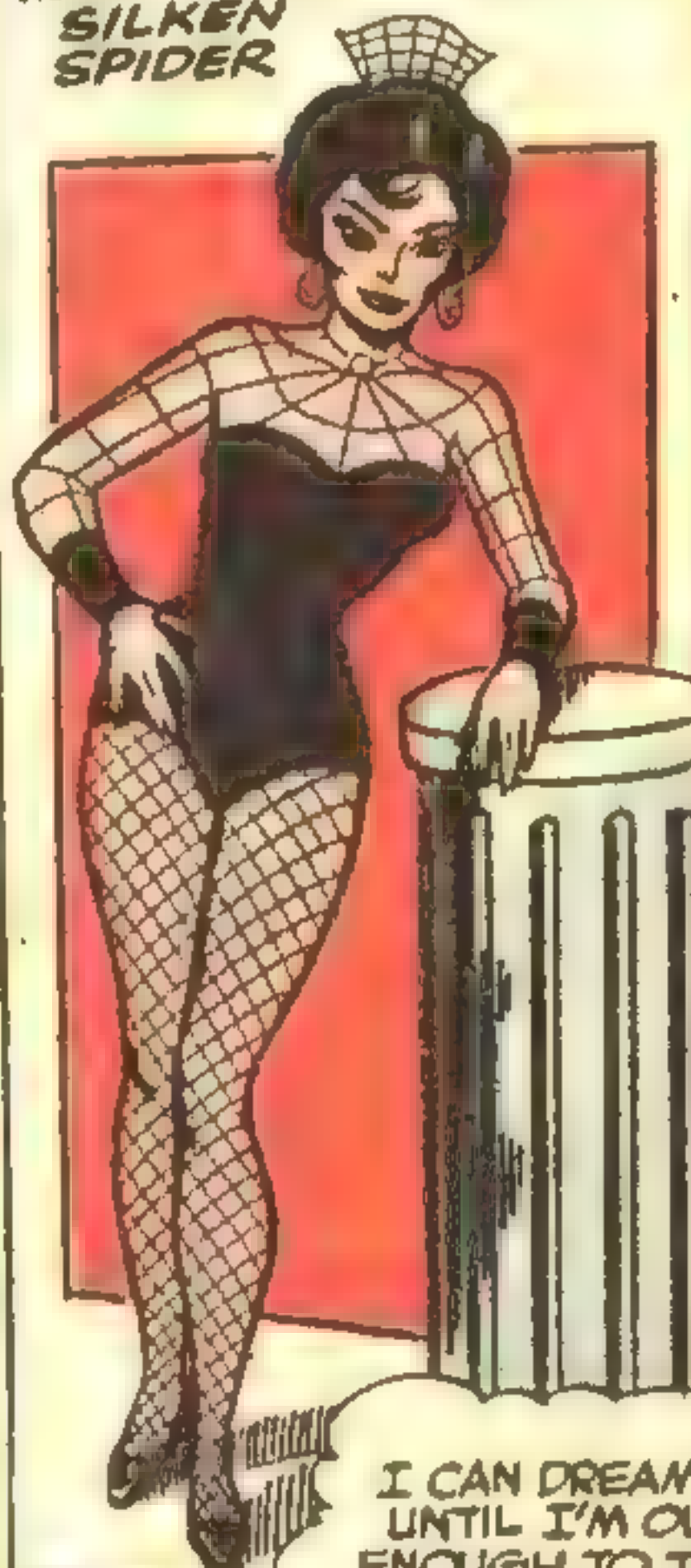
BATMAN DEFEATED CYCLOPS, WITH THE AID OF ECLIPSO'S OTHER SELF, DR. BRUCE GORDON. BUT MARCIA ESCAPED!

NOW FOR ANOTHER WOMAN WHO CAME INTO BATMAN'S LIFE... AT THE GOTHAM CITY MUSEUM, BRUCE WAYNE, MILLIONAIRE SPORTSMAN AND PLAYBOY, AND HIS YOUNG WARD DICK GRAYSON, ATTEND A SENSATIONAL "POP" ART SHOW...

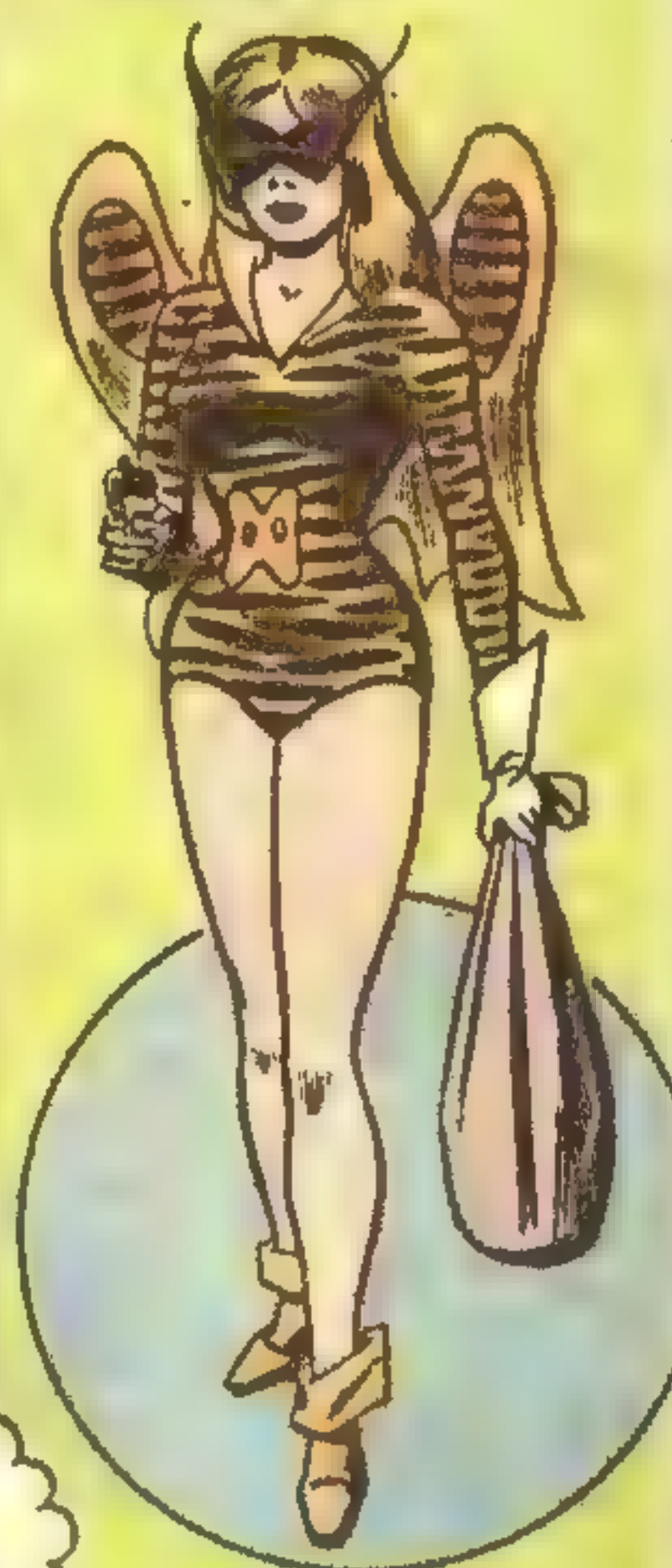
WORLD PUBLIC ENEMY NO. 1,  
DRAGON FLY



WORLD PUBLIC ENEMY NO. 2,  
SILKEN SPIDER



WORLD PUBLIC ENEMY NO. 3,  
TIGER MOTH



THERE THEY ARE, DICK! DRAGON FLY, SILKEN SPIDER, AND TIGER MOTH-- THREE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMEN IN THE WORLD-- AND THE MOST DEADLY!-- STOP DROOLING! YOU'RE TOO YOUNG!

I CAN DREAM UNTIL I'M OLD ENOUGH TO TRY TO CATCH THEM, CAN'T I?

AT THAT MOMENT-- A STARTLING OUTBURST...

YOU MEN ARE SUCH FOOLS! IF YOU WEREN'T SO BLIND YOU WOULD SEE THAT I'M NOT ONLY MORE BEAUTIFUL-- BUT MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN THOSE AMATEURS! WHY-- YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW OF MY CRIMES-- THEY'RE SO PERFECT! THAT'S THE ONLY MISTAKE I MADE-- COMMITTING SUCH PERFECT CRIMES THAT I HAVEN'T GOTTEN ANY PUBLICITY ABOUT THEM!

YOU ARE LUSCIOUS, DREAMBOAT! BUT-- AS FOR BEING WORLD PUBLIC ENEMY NO. 1-- MIND PROVING THAT TO THE POLICE?

FOR YOU, HANDSOME-- ANY TIME! NO HAND-CLIFFS ARE NEEDED--

JUST SLIP YOUR ARM THROUGH MINE! AND CALL ME IVY-- POISON IVY!

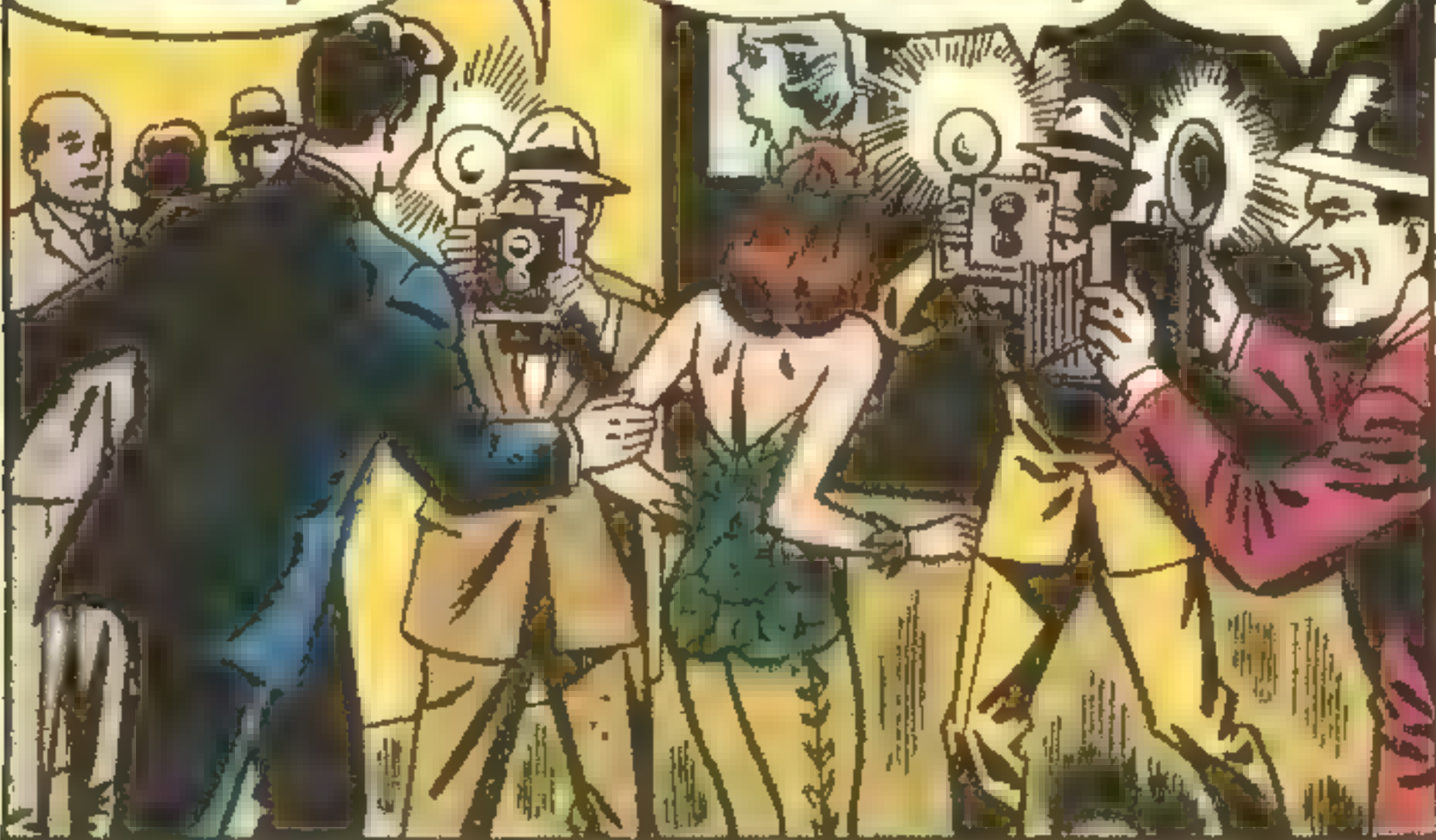


ATTRACTED BY THE SENSATIONAL BEAUTY AND THE  
EVEN MORE SENSATIONAL CLAIM ...

WOW! THIS COULD BE  
A BIGGER SCOOP THAN  
THE DISCOVERY OF  
ICE CREAM! IF--  
IT'S TRUE!

WITH A FACE LIKE  
THAT--IT DOESN'T  
MATTER WHETHER  
SHE'S TELLING THE  
TRUTH OR NOT!

SMILE  
FOR THE  
BIRDIE,  
**POISON**  
**IVY,**  
HONEY!



MIND IF I PUT A LITTLE  
MORE VOLTAGE IN MY  
MAKEUP FOR THE  
FLASHBULB BOYS,  
HANDSOME?

IT'S  
YOUR  
FACE!



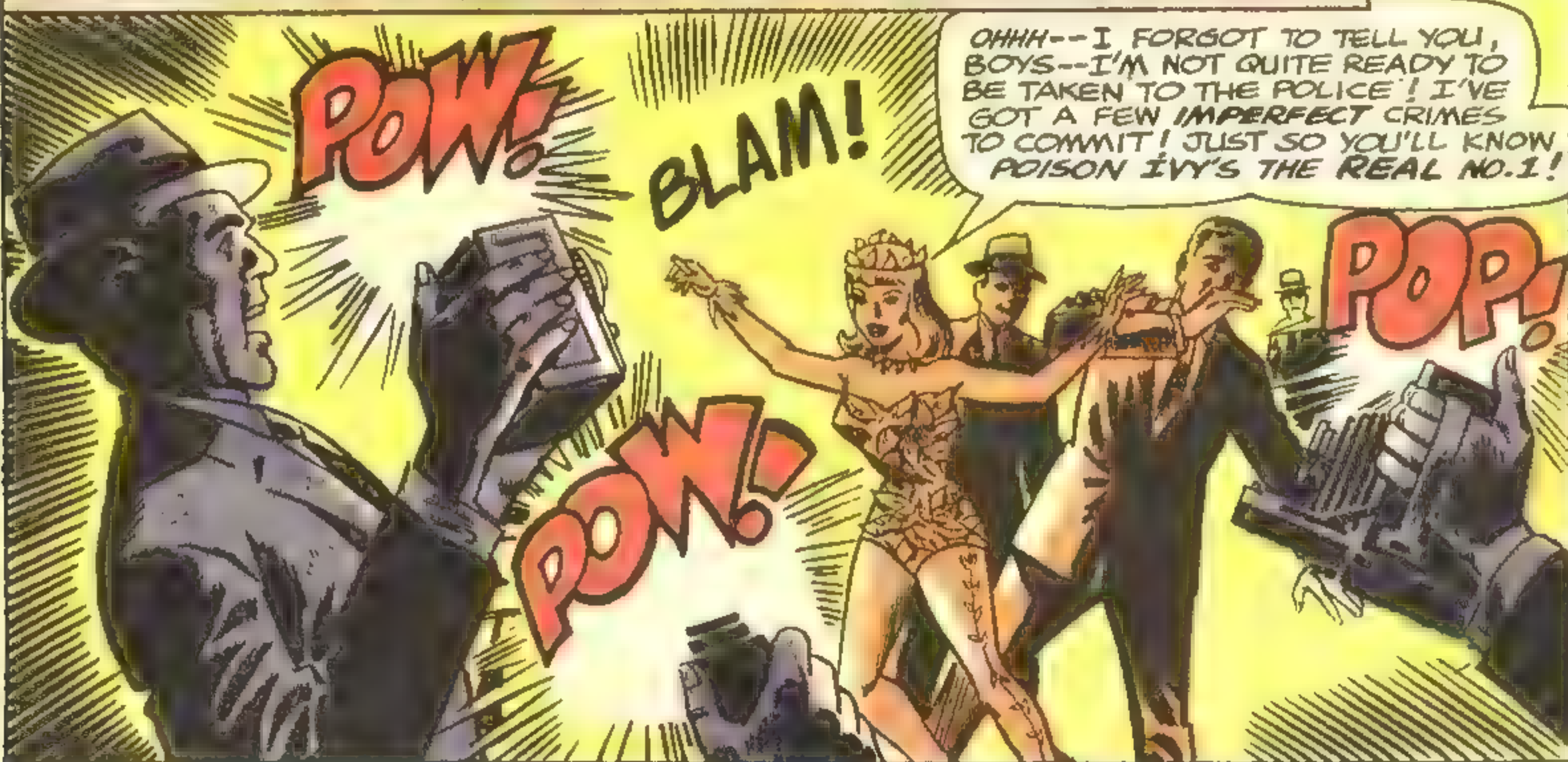
BUT--INSTEAD OF THE FLASHBULBS MERELY POPPING-- THEY EXPLODE BLINDINGLY!

**POW!**

**BLAM!**

OH--I FORGOT TO TELL YOU,  
BOYS--I'M NOT QUITE READY TO  
BE TAKEN TO THE POLICE! I'VE  
GOT A FEW IMPERFECT CRIMES  
TO COMMIT! JUST SO YOU'LL KNOW  
**POISON IVY'S THE REAL NO.1!**

**POP!**



YOUR LIPSTICK--SENT  
ELECTRICAL IMPULSES  
THAT EXPLODED THE  
FLASHBULBS! THAT  
MEANS YOU WORE  
TINTED CONTACT LENSES--  
TO PROTECT YOUR EYES!

I SEE YOU'VE GOT AN I.Q.  
TO MATCH YOUR LOOKS,  
HANDSOME! WE'VE STILL  
GOT A DATE--BUT NOT  
WITH THE POLICE! I  
HAVE SOMETHING  
COZIER IN MIND!  
I'LL CONTACT YOU WHEN  
I'M READY!

DON'T FORGET TO SPELL THE NAME  
RIGHT, BOYS! **POISON**--AS IN  
ARSENIC! **IVY**--AS IN  
IRRESISTIBLE! TA-TA!



THEN COMES THE DAY WHEN BATMAN IS CAPTURED BY THE GREEN-CLAD GIRL...

HAVE PLEASANT DREAMS ABOUT ME, PET?

PET IS RIGHT! THAT'S WHAT SHE'S MADE OF ME-- A PET ON A LEASH! I'VE GOT TO OUTWIT HER SOMEHOW!

OHH, COME ON, PET! EAT SOMETHING!

NO! I'D RATHER DIE-- THAN REMAIN ALIVE IN YOUR COMPANY! I'M GOING TO GO ON A STARVATION DIET!

DAY AFTER DAY PASSES... THE MASKED MARVEL GROWS WEAKER AND WEAKER ... UNTIL...

BATMAN ISN'T FAKING! HE WOULD HAVE MOVED WHEN I TESTED HIM BY HAVING MY PET PANTHER PAW HIM OVER!

C'MON, MEN! BRING THE I.V. TUBE AND FREE HIM! WE'VE GOT TO FORCE-FEED MY STUBBORN LOVER BOY!

SNIFF! SNIFF!

BUT, AT THE SIGHT OF THE RUBBER TUBE, A WILD SNARLING...

MY TRICK OF PLAYING A "DEATH-BED" SCENE BOOMERANGED! THAT ANIMAL THINKS HE'S GOING TO BE BEATEN BY THAT RUBBER TUBE-- AND IS RUNNING WILD! IT'S THE BREAK I'VE BEEN HOPING FOR!

OOOOWRR!

LIKE A MATADOR FACING A MADDENED BULL, THE MASKED MARVEL FARRIES THE SNARLING DEATH...

GIVE ME THE RUBBER TUBE--QUICK!--IT'S EXCITING THE ANIMAL!

BATMAN-- YOU'RE RISKING YOUR LIFE FOR ME!

POWRR!

I TOLD YOU ONCE YOU'VE CAUGHT POISON IVY IT'LL NEVER LET YOU GO! STOP WASTING PRECIOUS TIME, BATMAN! WE'LL BE KING AND QUEEN OF CRIME FROM NOW ON! MR. AND MRS. NO. 1!

SUDDENLY...  
LIKE A  
ROBIN  
WITH THE  
FURY OF  
AN EAGLE,  
THE BOY  
WONDER  
PLUMMETS  
INTO THE  
DAZED  
GUNMEN...

AFTER I TRAILED YOU, BATMAN, I WAITED LONG  
ENOUGH FOR YOU TO PROVE YOU'D GOTTEN  
POISON IVY OUT OF YOUR SYSTEM--BY  
RECAPTURING HER AND HER GANG AS YOU  
PROMISED! LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE STILL  
IN A FEVER OVER HER!

AND HOW, SMARTIE PANTS!  
AND TO PROVE HOW DELIRIOUS  
BATMAN IS ABOUT ME--HE'S  
GOING TO CLIP YOUR WINGS!  
WON'T YOU--?



YOU--YOU TIED MY WRISTS  
WITH THE RUBBER TUBE  
WHILE YOU WERE KISSING  
ME--? YOU--TRAITOR!



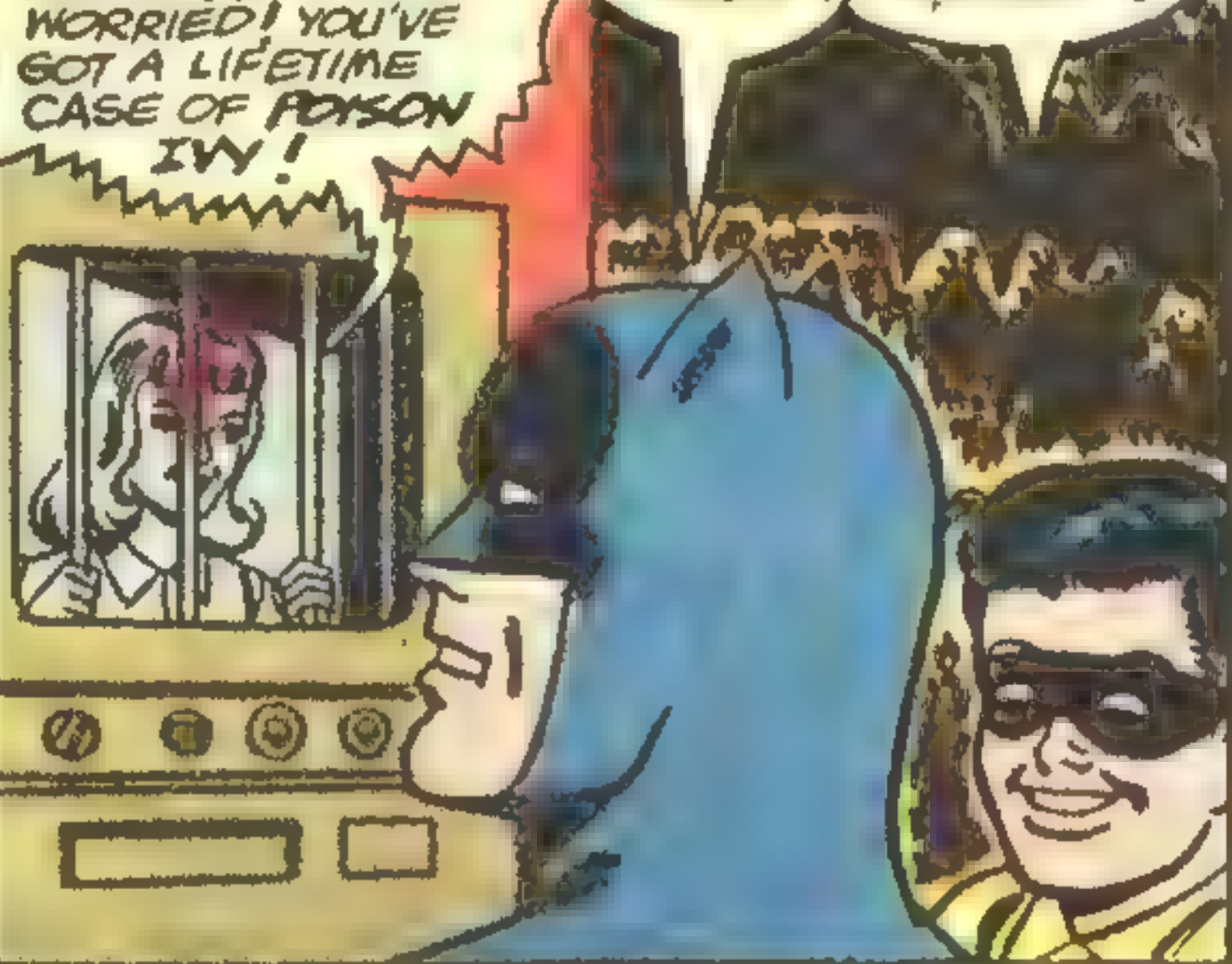
LATER, IN THE BATCAVE..

I KNOW YOU'RE WATCHING  
ME ON TV, BATMAN!  
YOU GOT ME IN HERE  
ONCE BEFORE--AND  
YOU'LL GET ME OUT  
AGAIN! I'M NOT  
WORRIED! YOU'VE  
GOT A LIFETIME  
CASE OF POISON  
IVY!

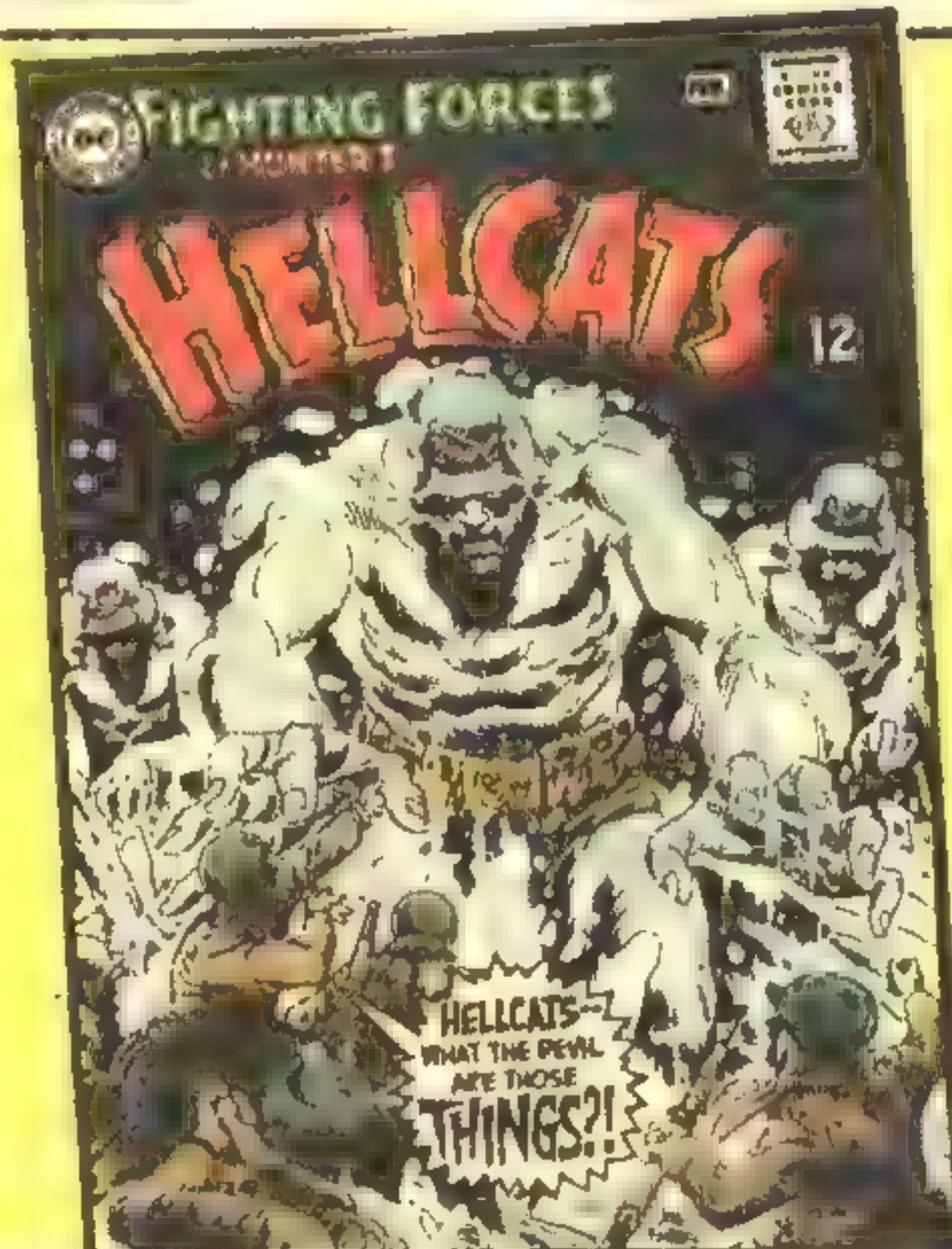


HAS  
SHE  
GOT  
THE  
WRONG  
NUMBER!

MAYBE! BUT  
IF SHE "DIALS"  
FOR YOU,  
BIG DADDY--  
DON'T BE  
SURPRISED  
IF I  
"ANSWER"!



BUT A  
NEW  
GIRL WAS  
ABOUT  
TO  
MAKE AN  
APPEARANCE  
IN THE  
COWLED  
CRUSADER'S  
LIFE...  
BATGIRL!



AS IF ORDINARY  
NAZIS WEREN'T  
BAD ENOUGH...

LOOK WHAT THE  
**HELLCATS**  
ARE UP AGAINST  
**NOW!**

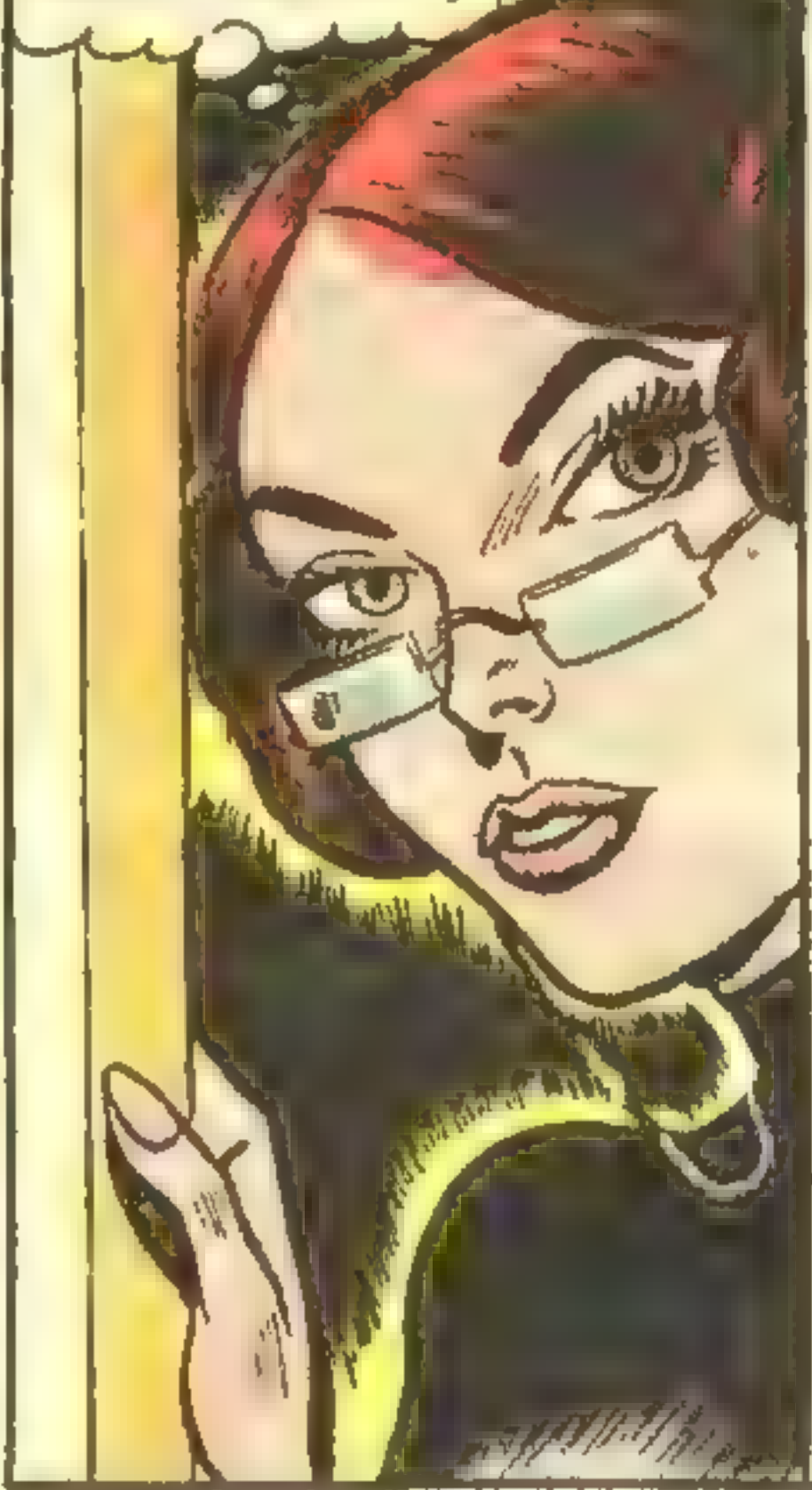
IN THE **GOTHAM CITY LIBRARY** AFTER CLOSING HOURS, BARBARA GORDON, LIBRARIAN AND DAUGHTER OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON, IS IN STITCHES...

LOOK AT THE TIME! I BETTER FINISH MY COSTUME FOR THE **POLICEMEN'S MASQUERADE BALL** TONIGHT--AND GET GOING!



SHORTLY, SHE SLIPS INTO A LARGE CLOSET WHICH SHE HAS CONVERTED INTO A DRESSING ROOM...

THE WHOLE WORLD THINKS I'M JUST A PLAIN JANE--A COLORLESS FEMALE 'BRAIN'! I'LL SHOW THEM A FAR MORE IMPOSING GIRL TONIGHT!



A STARTLING TRANSFORMATION...

WELL!!! THIS "**BATGIRL**" COSTUME REALLY DOES THINGS FOR ME! I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR THE MID-NIGHT UNMASKING HOUR--AND THE **SHOCK** I'LL GIVE DAD!



SOON SHE IS DRIVING ALONG THE SUBURBAN HIGHWAY TOWARD THE HOTEL WHERE THE MASQUE BALL IS BEING HELD...

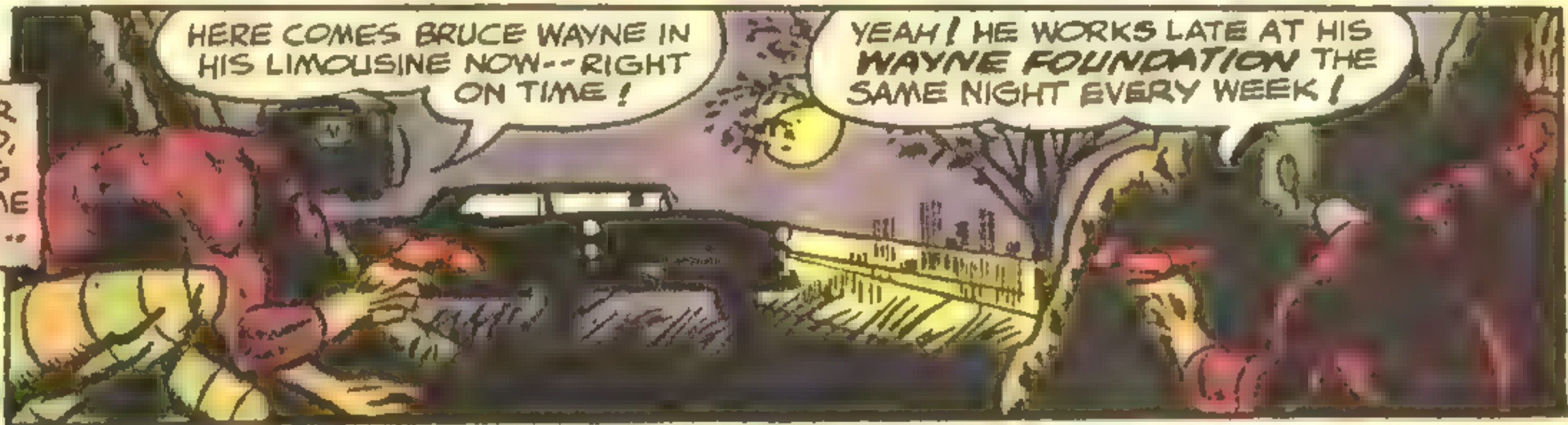


I MADE MY PH.D. AT **GOTHAM STATE UNIVERSITY**! I GRADUATED **SUMMA CUM LAUDE**! I WEAR A BROWN BELT AT JUDO! BUT TONIGHT WILL BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF MY LIFE!

NOT FAR AHEAD, ALONG THE SAME ROAD...

HERE COMES BRUCE WAYNE IN HIS LIMOUSINE NOW--RIGHT ON TIME!

YEAH! HE WORKS LATE AT HIS **WAYNE FOUNDATION** THE SAME NIGHT EVERY WEEK!



GLISTENING STRANDS OF GOOEY SUBSTANCE LEAP FROM THE WEAPONS OF THE MOTH-MEN--WRAP THE WAYNE LIMOUSINE IN COCOON-LIKE FOLDS...



WE STOPPED IT COLD! NOW LET'S KNOCK WAYNE THE SAME WAY!

EVEN AS A DOOR OF THE LIMOUSINE IS OPENED AND MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE YANKED OUT..

OH!! COSTUMED MEN GANGING UP ON THAT DRIVER! I'VE GOT TO HELP HIM!

SCREEEE!

WHY--THAT'S **BRUCE WAYNE** THEY'RE ATTACKING--DADDY'S MILLIONAIRE FRIEND! HE'S ALWAYS REGARDED ME AS A MOUSEY SORT OF PERSON! I WONDER WHAT HE'D SAY IF HE KNEW WHO IT WAS COMING TO RESCUE HIM! I'LL DISGUISE MY VOICE--SO HE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE IT!

MAKE A RUN FOR IT, MR. WAYNE--BEFORE YOU GET HURT! **BATGIRL** WILL HANDLE THESE HUMAN MOTHS!

WHO'S THIS?

THAT'S A BREAK! IT'LL GIVE ME A CHANCE TO RUN JUST FAR ENOUGH TO CHANGE INTO MY **BATMAN** COSTUME UNOBSERVED! THAT--er--NEW **BATGIRL** MAY NOT BE AS GOOD AS SHE THINKS SHE IS!

I'M A **FIRST KYU** JUDO EXPERT, BOYS--AS I'M WILLING TO DEMONSTRATE!

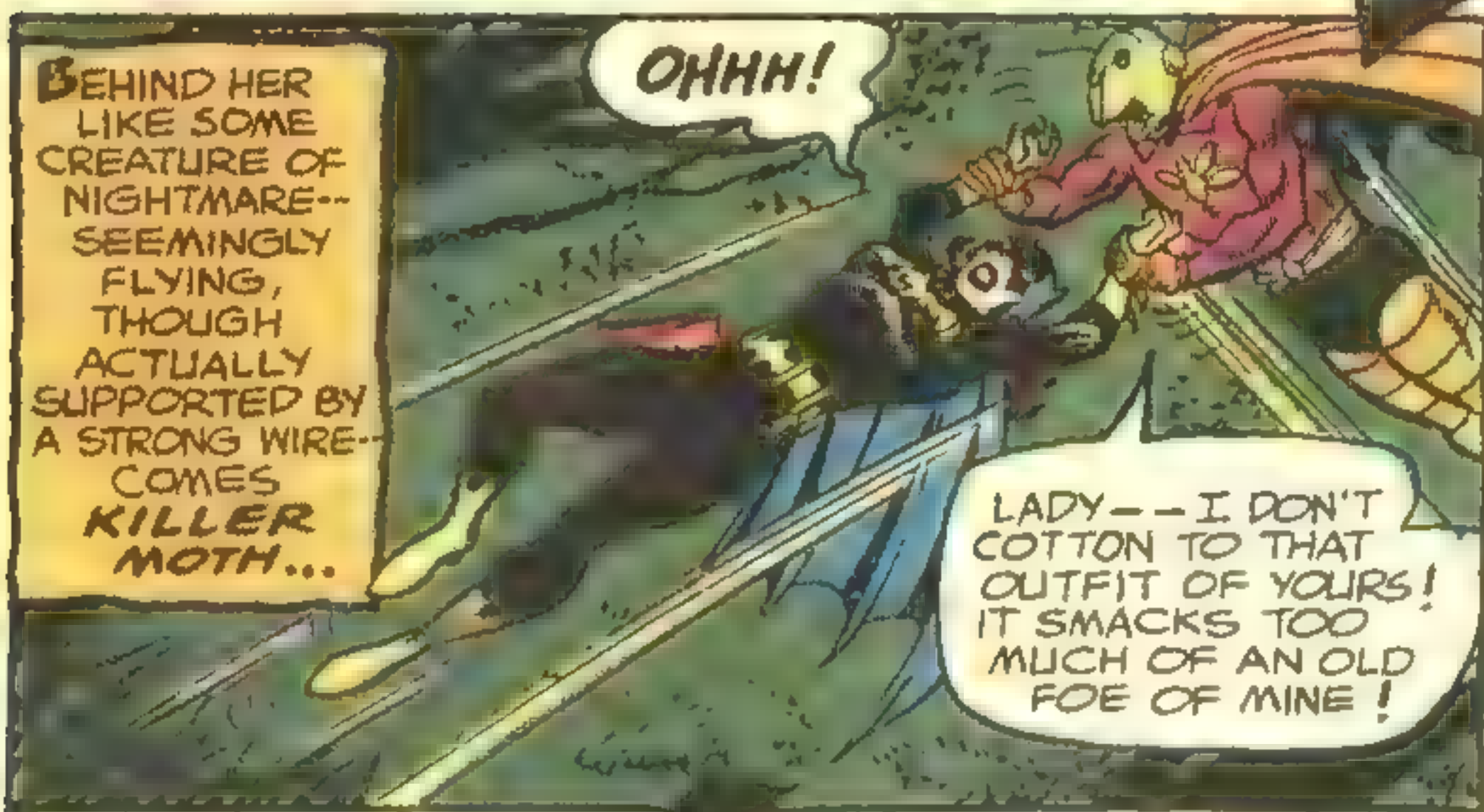
HEY! WHATTA WE GOT HOLD OF HERE?

YA MEAN--WHAT'S GOT HOLD OF **US**!



NOW TO PUT THE FINISHING TOUCH--

**KLUNK!**



OHhh!

BEHIND HER LIKE SOME CREATURE OF NIGHTMARE-- SEEMINGLY FLYING, THOUGH ACTUALLY SUPPORTED BY A STRONG WIRE-- COMES **KILLER MOTH...**

LADY-- I DON'T COTTON TO THAT OUTFIT OF YOURS! IT SMACKS TOO MUCH OF AN OLD FOE OF MINE!

YES! THIS IS THAT LETHAL LEPIDOPTERON WHOSE EXPLOITS HAVE MADE HIM A PRIME ENEMY OF THE **CAPED CRUSADER!** HAVING BURST FROM THE COCOON OF STATE PRISON-- HE IS BACK AT HIS OLD FLITTING GROUNDS...

YOU BETTER STICK TO **MY** KNITTING ON THAT COCOON WHILE MY MOTH-MOB ROUNDS UP BRUCE WAYNE!



THEN--OUT OF THE NIGHT-- TIME DARKNESS A MIGHTY FIST SWINGING LIKE A SLEDGEHAMMER...

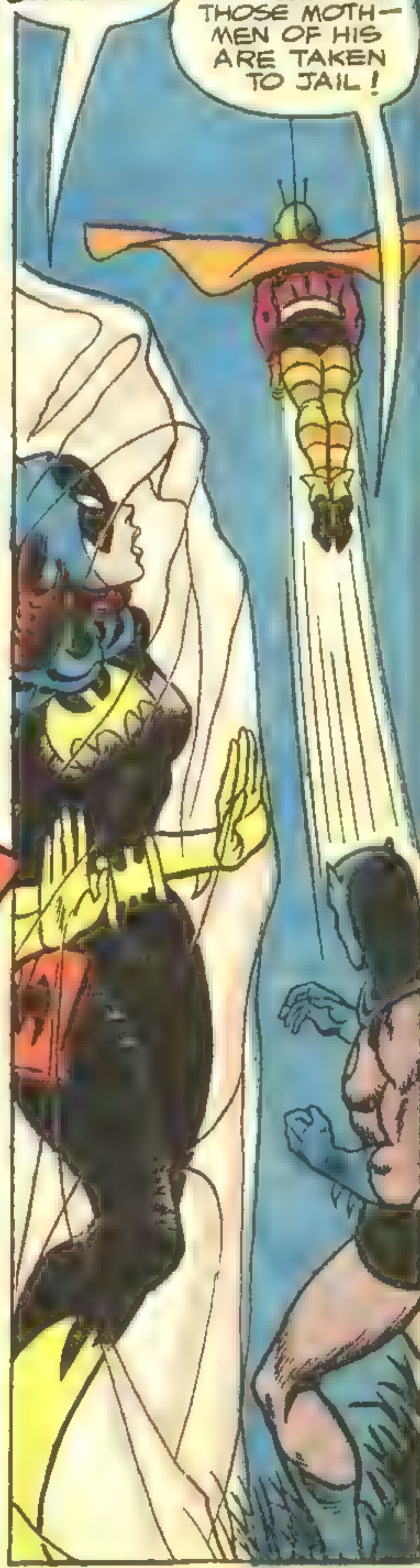
STUCK FAST-- CAN'T GET LOOSE--



BUT--HELD ON THAT ALMOST INVISIBLE WIRE THAT REELS HIM UPWARD AND AWAY FROM DANGER-- **KILLER MOTH** RETREATS SKYWARD...

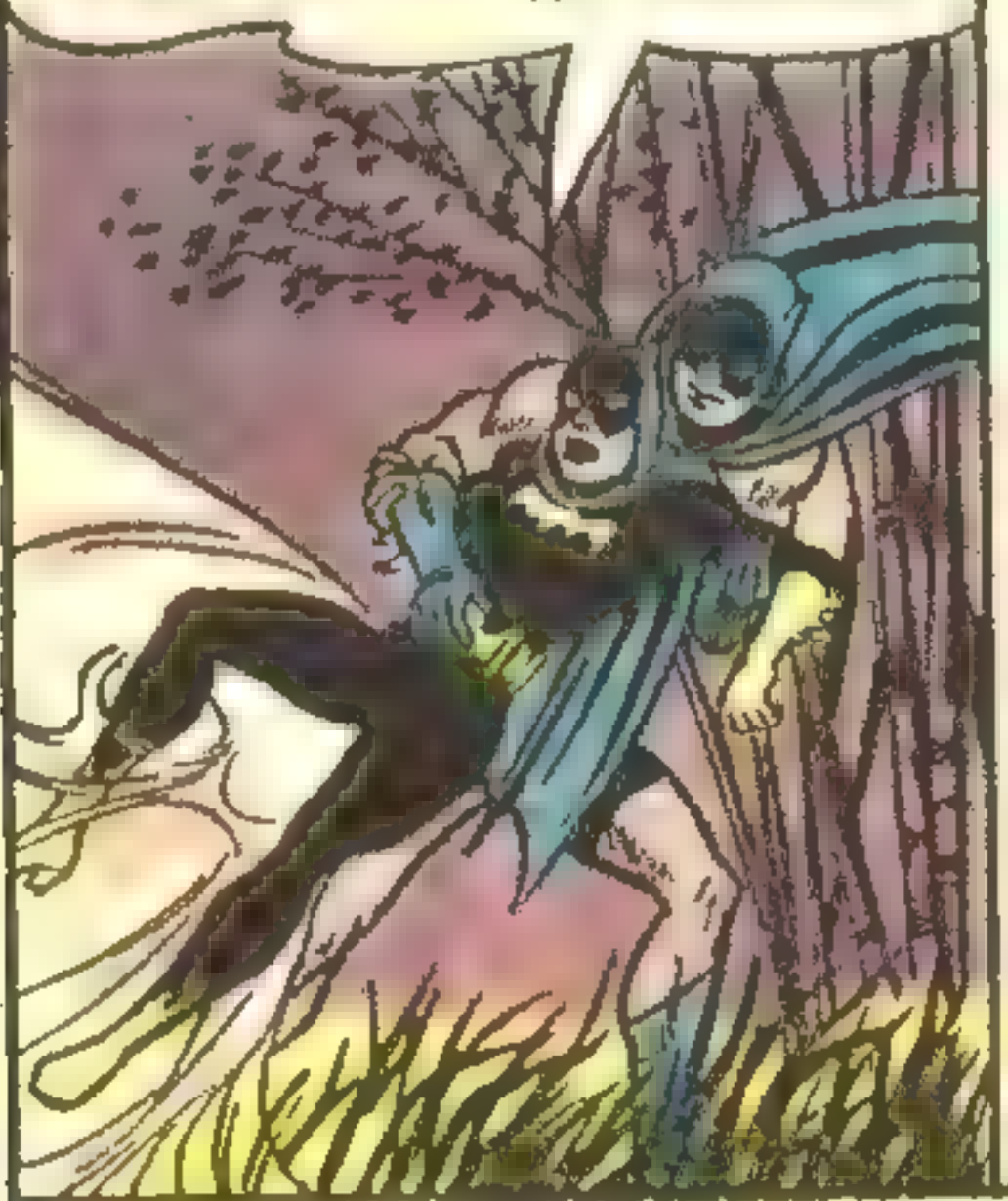
HE'S GETTING AWAY! AFTER HIM, **BATMAN!**

NO WAY TO DO THAT NOW! FOR THE MOMENT ALL I CAN DO IS FREE YOU-- AND SEE THAT THOSE MOTH-- MEN OF HIS ARE TAKEN TO JAIL!



HER EYES SPARKLE! HER BREATH COMES FASTER! HER HEART THUMPS WITH ALARMING SPEED! BABS GORDON IS HAVING THE TIME OF HER LIFE--FULLY ALIVE TO THIS NEW EXCITEMENT AND DANGER--AND LOVING IT!...

**BATMAN-- BRUCE WAYNE** IS IN DEADLY DANGER! THOSE MOTH-MEN WERE ABOUT TO BEAT HIM UP WHEN I HAPPENED ALONG! **KILLER MOTH** IS BOUND TO TRY AGAIN...



I'LL TAKE PERSONAL CHARGE OF BRUCE WAYNE, MA'AM! BUT WHO ARE YOU? HOW COME YOU'RE WEARING THAT-- THAT **BATGIRL** COSTUME?

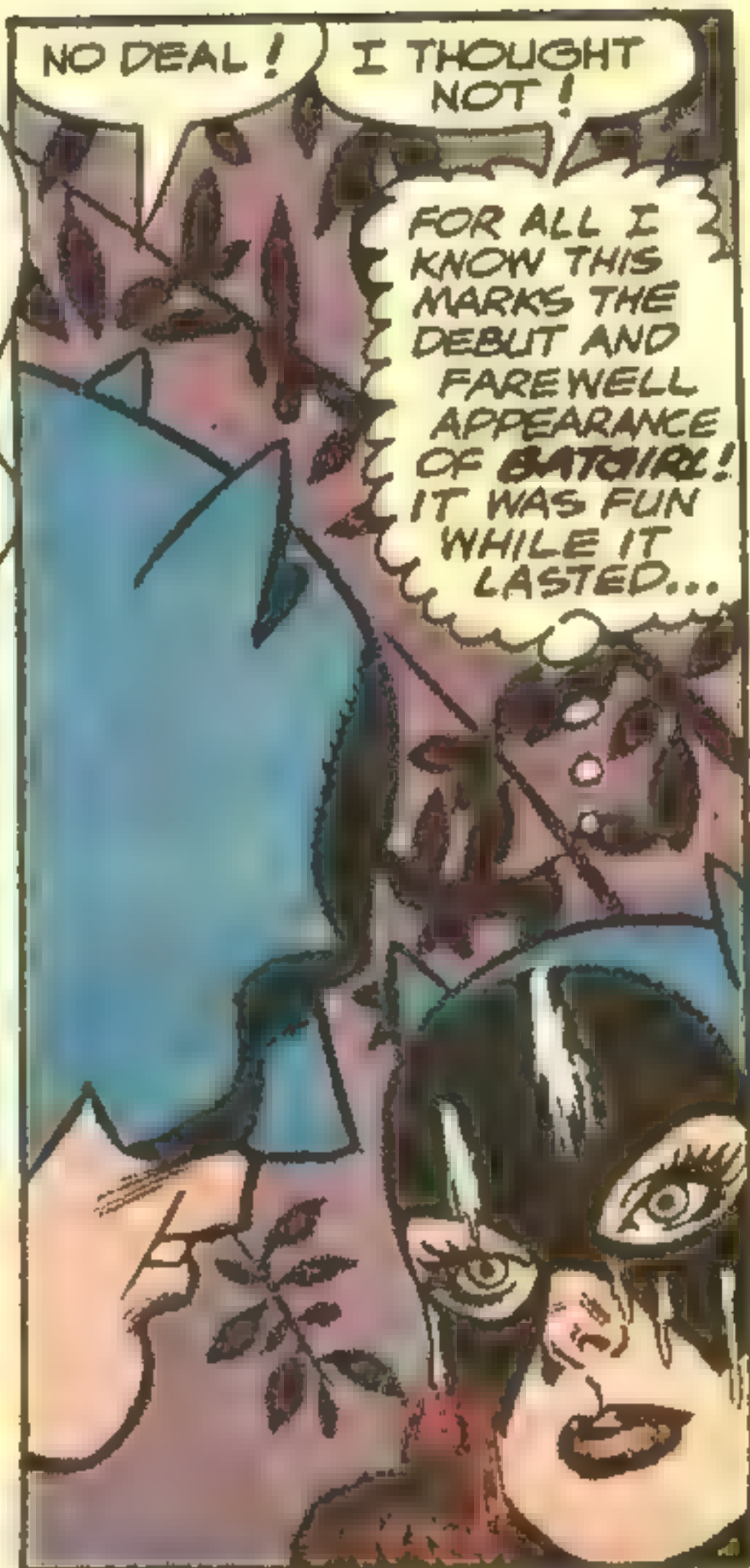
I WAS GOING TO THE POLICE-MEN'S BALL-- BUT I CAN'T NOW! MY COSTUME'S A MESS! AS FOR MY SECRET IDENTITY--I'LL EXCHANGE MINE FOR YOURS...



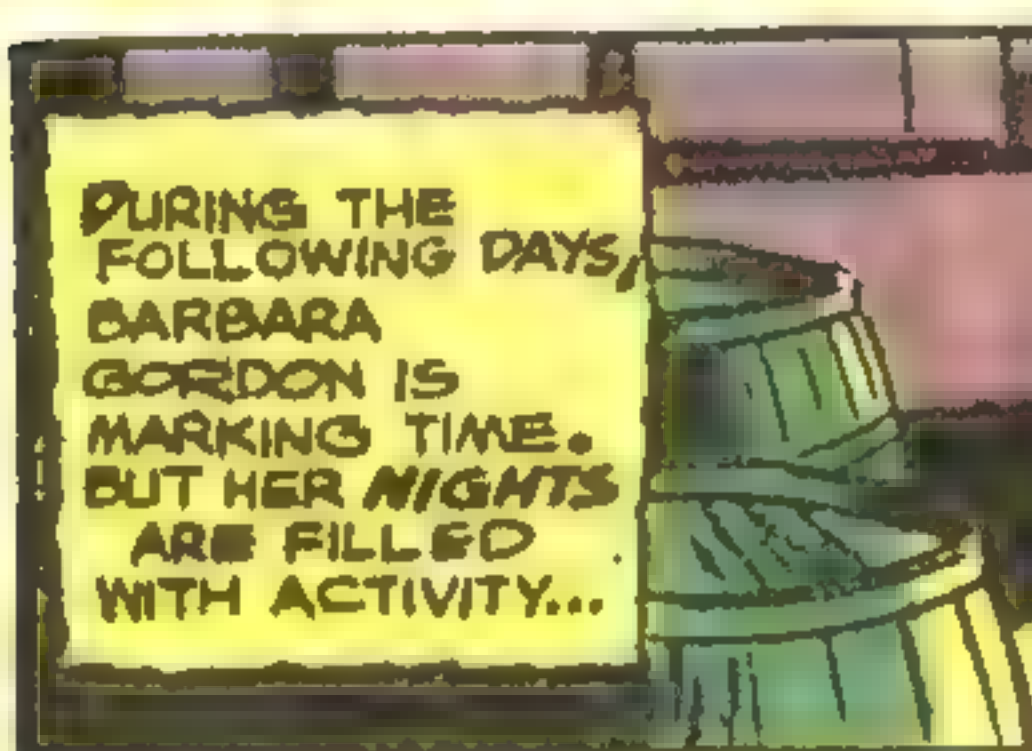
NO DEAL!

I THOUGHT NOT!

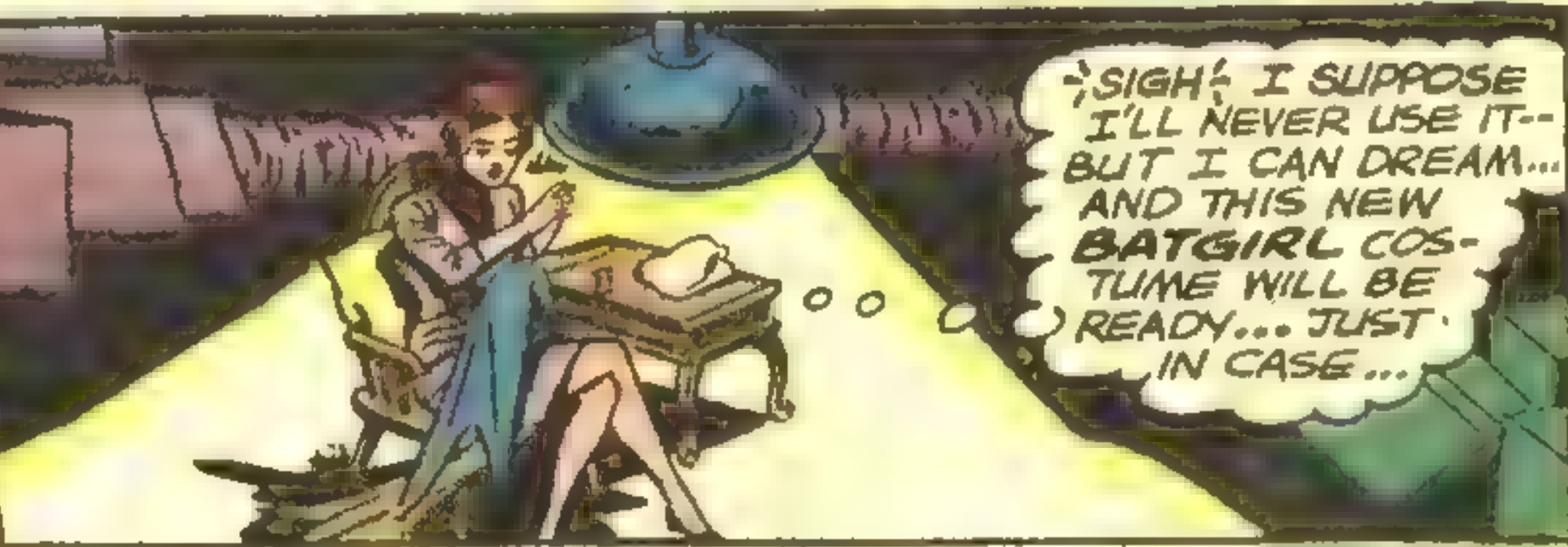
FOR ALL I KNOW THIS MARKS THE DEBUT AND FAREWELL APPEARANCE OF **BATGIRL**! IT WAS FUN WHILE IT LASTED...



DURING THE FOLLOWING DAYS, BARBARA GORDON IS MARKING TIME. BUT HER NIGHTS ARE FILLED WITH ACTIVITY...

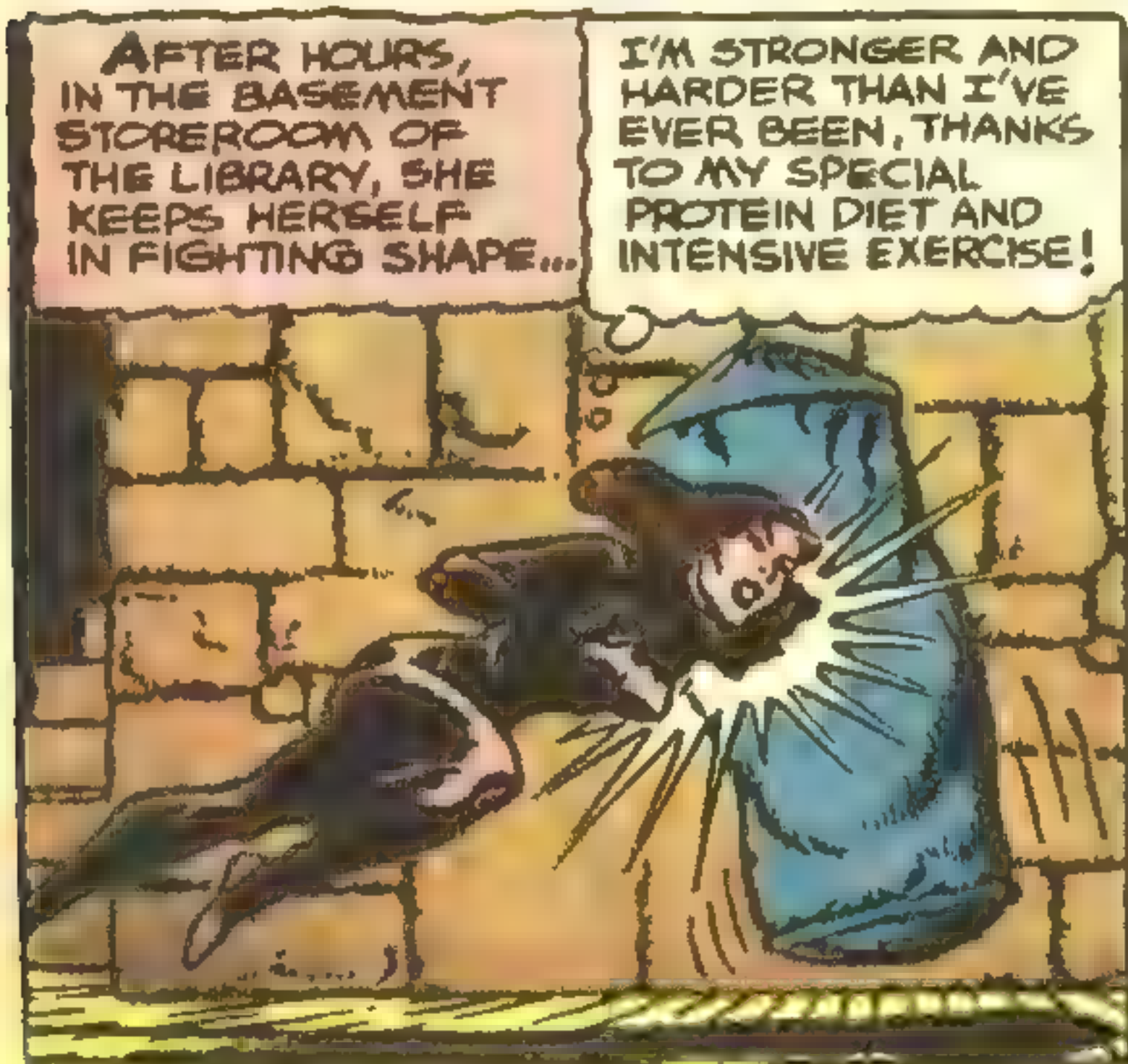


SIGH! I SUPPOSE I'LL NEVER USE IT-- BUT I CAN DREAM... AND THIS NEW **BATGIRL** COSTUME WILL BE READY... JUST IN CASE...



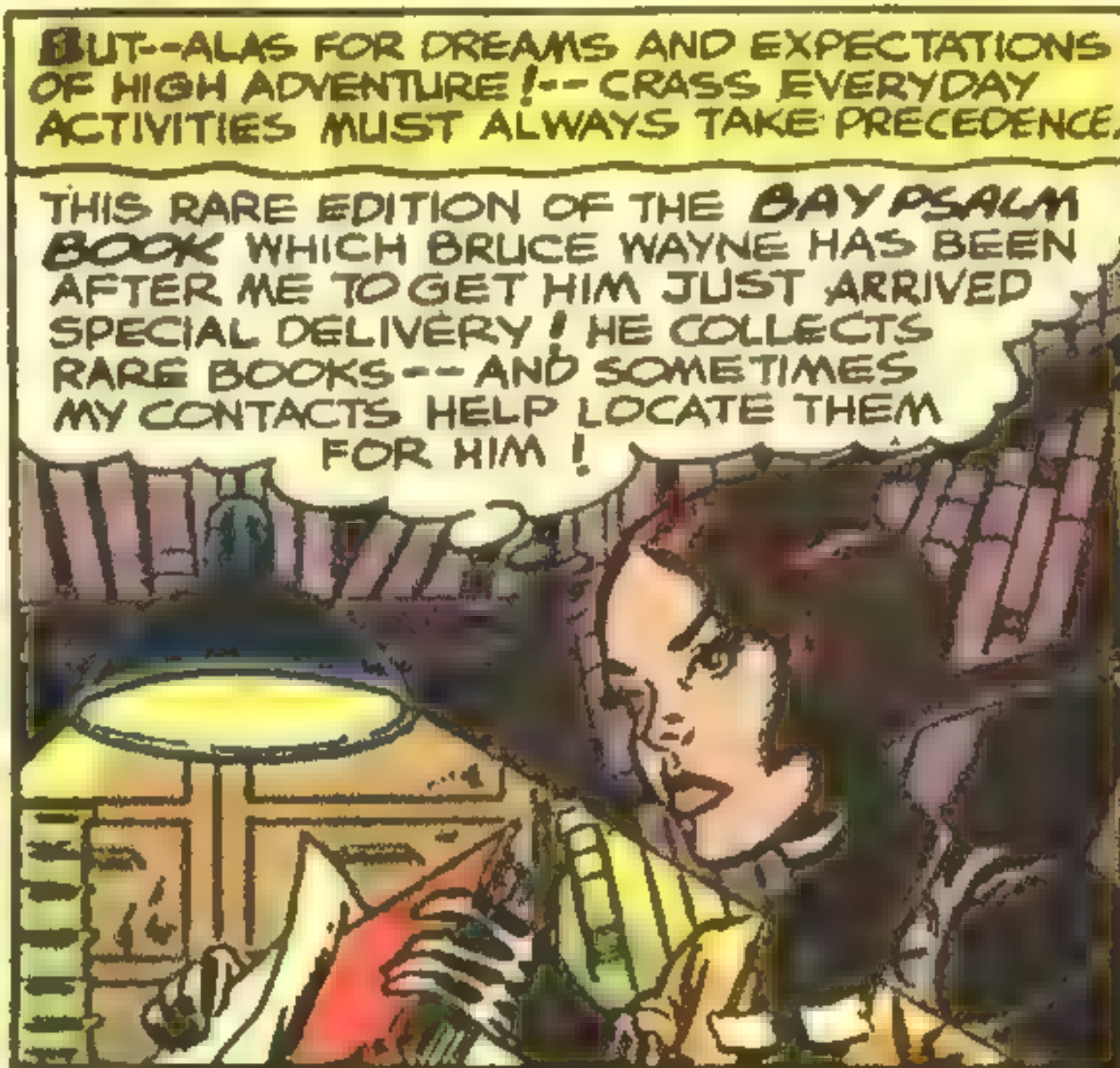
AFTER HOURS, IN THE BASEMENT STOREROOM OF THE LIBRARY, SHE KEEPS HERSELF IN FIGHTING SHAPE...

I'M STRONGER AND HARDER THAN I'VE EVER BEEN, THANKS TO MY SPECIAL PROTEIN DIET AND INTENSIVE EXERCISE!



BUT--ALAS FOR DREAMS AND EXPECTATIONS OF HIGH ADVENTURE!-- CRASS EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES MUST ALWAYS TAKE PRECEDENCE.

THIS RARE EDITION OF THE **BAYPSALM BOOK** WHICH BRUCE WAYNE HAS BEEN AFTER ME TO GET HIM JUST ARRIVED SPECIAL DELIVERY! HE COLLECTS RARE BOOKS-- AND SOMETIMES MY CONTACTS HELP LOCATE THEM FOR HIM!



**B**UT THE DAY CAME WHEN THE LIBRARIAN FOUND A CHANCE TO GO INTO ACTION...AND SHE DID IT, QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY...



AS HER HANDS HIT THE ROLLED BRIM OF HER BERET, BRINGING IT DOWN OVER HER FACE AND NECK...

...HER FINGERS PULL AT HER SKIRT--WHICH REVERSES AND BECOMES A CAPE...



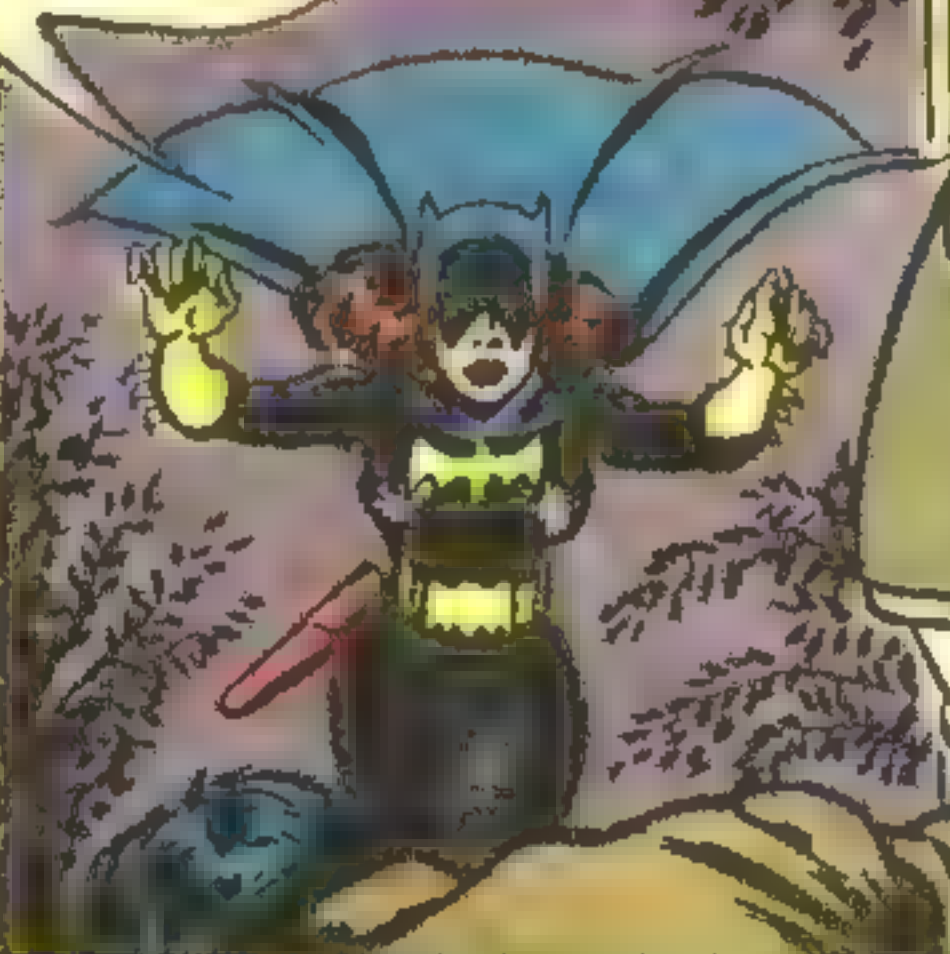
...SHE TOUCHES HER BOOTS, ROLLING UP THEIR FLAPS...



...AND HER HANDBAG REVERSES ITSELF TO FORM HER SPECIALLY-DESIGNED WEAPONS BELT...

**KILLER MOTH--**

THEN THE NEW--  
THE REAL--  
**BATGIRL**  
MAKES HER  
FIRST APPEARANCE  
BEFORE THE WORLD--  
AND **KILLER MOTH**  
AND HIS MOTH-MEN...



**BATGIRL**  
AGAIN--  
**HEY--** A  
HORRIBLE  
THOUGHT  
JUST HIT ME!  
DO YOU  
SUPPOSE  
**SHE'S**  
WORKING  
WITH  
**BATMAN**  
THE WAY  
**ROBIN**  
DOES?

**BATGIRL** HELPED CAPTURE **KILLER MOTH**...AND HAS SINCE BECOME ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S TOP CRIME-FIGHTERS!

BUT MRS. CHILTON'S REMINISCENCES END AS COMPANY ARRIVES...

BRUCE! OH, HOW WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU!

YOU KNOW I LIKE TO GET OVER HERE WHENEVER I CAN, MOM CHILTON! AFTER ALL, YOU'VE MEANT A LOT TO ME! FROM THE TIME I WAS A BOY, WHEN MY PARENTS WERE KILLED...



"HOW VIVIDLY I REMEMBER THAT NIGHT, WHEN MY FOLKS-- THOMAS AND MARTHA WAYNE-- WERE WALKING HOME WITH ME FROM A MOVIE! SUDDENLY..."

THIS IS A STICKUP! I'LL TAKE THAT NECKLACE YOU'RE WEARIN', LADY!

OH...NOT MY NECKLACE...



YOU HOODLUM! DON'T YOU DARE LAY A HAND ON MY WIFE!... UNNNN HHH!

MAYBE YOU'LL KEEP QUIET... NOW!

THOMAS!



"THAT BULLET KILLED MY MOTHER, TOO! SHE DIED OF HEART FAILURE..."

THEY'RE DEAD! YOU KILLED THEM!

STOP LOOKIN' AT ME LIKE THAT!



"THE NEXT DAY, MY UNCLE PHILIP, WHO'D BEEN MADE MY GUARDIAN, INTRODUCED ME TO YOU..."

MY BUSINESS REQUIRES ME TO TRAVEL QUITE A BIT, BRUCE, SO I'M PUTTING YOU IN THE CARE OF MRS. CHILTON, MY HOUSEKEEPER!

I HAD TWO SONS ...BUT THEY'RE GROWN NOW! IT WILL BE NICE HAVING A BOY AROUND AGAIN!

HOW DO YOU DO, MA'AM?



"I REMEMBER, BRUCE! AND I RECALL SEEING YOU BESIDE YOUR PARENTS' GRAVE THE DAY OF THEIR FUNERAL..."

I SWEAR I'LL DEDICATE MY LIFE AND INHERITANCE TO BRINGING YOUR KILLER TO JUSTICE... AND TO FIGHTING ALL CRIMINALS!

I SWEAR IT!

"YOU TURNED OUT TO BE A FINE, YOUNG MAN, BRUCE! YOU GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE WITH HONORS..."

IMAGINE... A STAR ATHLETE AND AN HONOR STUDENT!

WE'RE MIGHTY PROUD OF YOU, BRUCE!

AND I KNOW THAT YOU KEPT THAT VOW AT YOUR PARENTS' GRAVE!

HUH? YOU... UH... DO?

HAS SHE FIGURED OUT HE'S BATMAN?

OF COURSE... THROUGH THE RESEARCH IN CRIME PREVENTION AT THE WAYNE FOUNDATION!

OH... YES! THAT REMINDS ME... THERE'S A BOARD MEETING THIS AFTERNOON. FIRST I HAVE TO DROP DICK OFF AT A FRIEND'S HOUSE...

BRUCE WILL NEVER KNOW THAT I'M AWARE OF HIS **BATMAN** IDENTITY! BUT IT WAS OBVIOUS TO ME! HOW GLAD I AM THAT HE TURNED OUT SO WELL... NOT LIKE MY SONS!

MAYBE I FAILED... MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE WATCHED THEM MORE CAREFULLY! YET... MAYBE WHAT HAPPENED... COULDN'T BE HELPED!

OH, JOE... MAX...

THIS IS SOMETHING ELSE BRUCE MUST NEVER FIND OUT... THAT MY SONS **CHANGED** THEIR NAMES... TO **CHILL**... THAT THEY BECAME **UNDERWORLD TRIGGER-MEN**...

### JOE CHILL SHOT BY OWN HENCHMEN!

Claim they killed him because he was responsible for **BATMAN's** career. Chill dies without revealing crime-fighter's identity.

### MAX CHILL KILLED IN ACCIDENT WHILE FIGHTING **BATMAN!**

... THAT IT WAS MY SON WHO **KILLED HIS PARENTS**... AND MY **OTHER SON** WHO DIED BATTLING HIM A FEW MONTHS AGO! OH, JOE... MAX... WHY COULDN'T YOU HAVE TURNED OUT LIKE BRUCE?

The End

# Giant Batmail

Dear Editor:

BATMAN No. 203, the Giant featuring "Secrets of the Batcave," was the best collection so far (and they're still getting better). The main reason is that this issue showed us readers items Batman and Robin constantly use, along with their gradual development. For example, it's easy to compare changes in the Batplane. Even better is the Batcave itself. The first story, "The 1,000 Secrets of the Batcave," helped immensely. The main highlights of this are the diagram of the Batcave in 1948, the mystique of the cave (bats and whirlpool), and the underground stream which now enables the Batboat to leave the Batcave. I do wish you would explain how Batman changed the entire interior of his Batcave without revealing his secret identity to anybody. On page 6 of this issue there is a diagram of the old-look Batcave. Comparing this to the 1968 version, anyone can see that Batman and Robin had a lot of work. What does Batman do with the old barn (assuming it's still there, although it wasn't shown on the 1968 diagram)? He now launches his aerial vehicles from a mountain. I think you see my point.

Harvey Sobel, Commack N. Y.

*(The old barn is still there, and can be used as an emergency exit from the Batcave. As for the changes in the Batcave, Batman and Robin could only get help from those who knew their identities - like Alfred...or Superman! Since Batman sprung a few of the changes on Robin as a surprise in 1964, it stands to reason that he must have had some super-help, doesn't it?—Ed.)*

Dear Editor:

Yes, sir, it's little ol' Eagle Eye again. I have a mistake for you guys to wriggle out of. In "The Flying Batcave," on page 71, the clock shows 1:00 o'clock—and that was the time Batman started his week of staying out of Gotham City. Yet on page 79, it is 5 to 12:00 and Robin says they only have five minutes left. Don't tell me the Boy Wonder can't tell time yet!

David Szanto, Garson, Ont., Canada

*(Of course we wouldn't tell you that! It happens that during the week, Daylight Saving Time ended and the clocks were all moved back an hour. —Ed.)*

Dear Editor:

Although GIANT BATMAN G-49 was considerably below par as compared with previous issues, it was still worthwhile. My favorite tale was "The Flying Batcave." It was fully as exciting and novel as the sequel, "Secrets of the Flying Batcave." Out of all past Giants, the one I enjoyed most was BATMAN ANNUAL No. 7, with its theme of "Batman and Robin's Greatest Mystery Cases." I'd greatly appreciate a repeat of this theme in a future Giant. I also like any story featuring the Catwoman or the Joker. The Female Felon and the Clown Prince are the greatest! (I'd like to see them married some day.) Too many Giants, I think, tend to get bogged down in the "out-of-this-world" themes. Fantasy is well-suited to Superman or Hawkman, but our Daredevil Duo fit more smoothly into an "ordinary-mortal-battling-evil" theme. About your idea for an all-female BATMAN GIANT — ecch! No woman should

ever have set foot in Batman's pages.

Selina Zane, Phoenixville, Pa.

*(Well, Selina, how about you? We put you in these "hallowed pages." Besides, you've already mentioned your liking for the Catwoman; no wonder—she's a Selina, too! —Ed.)*

Dear Editor:

I liked the August 80 PAGE GIANT, but I caught one goof. On page 19, it says that the Batplane's engine is a ram-jet. But a ram-jet has to be going 200 to 300 m.p.h. to take off, because it has no compressor. Therefore, Batman couldn't take off from a dead stop, as he must in his limited space. He should use a turbo-jet.

Bill Calhoun, Indianapolis, Ind.

*(Okay—you RAMMED your point home. Batman's wings really are turbo-jet powered.—Ed.)*

Dear Editor:

I just finished reading No. 203 and I really dug the way-out picture of the Batcave. But I have a question. Why was Batman given that giant penny for his trophy room? I managed to get all Batman issues from 1935 (the date of the penny) on, and I couldn't find anything about it.

Keith Wiemerslage, Newton, Kan.

*(You mean every issue from 1939 on; that's when Batman debuted. Actually, we've tried to track down the case of the Penny Plunderers ourselves, with no success. Does any Batmanian out there know when—and IF—such a story was actually published?—Ed.)*

Dear Editor:

I enjoyed (as usual) your BATMAN 80 PAGE GIANT No. 203. But when I got to the Batcave—1968. I felt my heart pumping a little faster, my eyeballs popping out, and my super-bat-senses saying to me: "It's about time the editor made up his mind how the Batmobile looked." Before this, in DETECTIVE and BATMAN, I saw the Batmobile with a hard top, big bat-heads on the front, four doors, two doors. Holy mobile decorators! Had Batman and Robin gone batty? Ha, ha, hoo! Now, finally, you've made up your minds about the basic things in the Batcave, and if you dare to show a four-door Batmobile again, I swear I'll...I'll never stop reading BATMAN as long as I live!

Russell Scott, New York, N.Y.

*(If that's a promise, maybe editor Julius Schwartz, of BATMAN and DETECTIVE, should get busy on that four-door bat-buggy. But it's time to close up shop now so we'll leave you with a reminder that the next GIANT BATMAN will be a special 30th-anniversary issue. We're not sure yet what will be in it, but there'll be lots of surprises—pleasant, we hope. And our address, don't forget, is GIANT BATMAIL, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10011. —Ed.)*